



CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAII

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

FROM: 
Diane M. Terada, Division Administrator

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2008 (1:30 p.m., Room 016)

RE: Support of SB 2347, Relating to Senior Centers

Catholic Charities Hawaii (CCH), is a tax exempt, non-profit agency that has been providing supportive home and community based services to elders since 1973 and currently serves approximately 5,000 older persons each year. **We strongly support this bill, with the following recommended changes:**

- **Change SECTION 2 to read:** "There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$170,000 for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, \$80,000 for the Kapahulu Center, \$85,000 for Moiliili Community Center, and \$81,000 for the Waikiki Community Center or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 to provide funding for grants pursuant to chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for the operations of the above senior centers Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, the Kapahulu Center, the Moiliili Community Center, and the Waikiki Community Center."

Reason: Specifies the amount of funding needed by each senior center.

- **Change 3rd paragraph to read:** "The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of ~~human services~~ health for the purposes of this Act."

Reason: The above senior centers already have funds channeled through the Department of Health, Executive Office on Aging.

This bill will provide funding for a network of senior centers that provide vital health education and screenings, fitness, recreation, case management, and other services to enable thousands of senior citizens to maintain wellness, support independence and avoid costly institutionalization

Catholic Charities Hawaii has operated the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center since 1981. Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center is a State owned facility that was built as a model senior center for the State of Hawaii in 1969. The Center provides a range of educational, recreational and social services, including:

- Over 40 educational courses, such as Basic English and Stretch & Tone.
- Over 82 recreational courses, such as Tap Dance and Japanese Minyo Dance.



- Sponsorship of 7 ethnic clubs that perpetuate ethnic traditions and promote cultural sharing.
- Health promotion and screening activities, such as monthly blood pressure checks, flu shot clinics, health fairs, and more.
- Annual special events for education and recreation purposes, such as Candidates' Fair and Aloha Festivals.
- Onsite access to professional counseling and case management services – a Catholic Charities licensed social worker is available to Center members and their caregivers to aid in the transition from independence to interdependence.
- Opportunities for over 350 older adults to contribute their time and skills to the community through more than 2,000 hours of volunteer service annually.

The Center serves senior citizens, age 60 and older, living in the geographic area bounded by census tracts 38-66 (Kakaako - Nuuanu/Punchbowl – Downtown - Liliha/Kapalama - Kalihi/Palama - Kalihi Valley - Moanalua). Its priority is to serve those in greatest economic and social need, with an emphasis on serving low-income, minority elders.

The elderly population, age 60 and older, represents the fastest growing segment of Hawaii's population. By the year 2010, this sector of the population is projected to grow by 70% to 299,500 persons, or one in every five persons. Many of the elders will be aging in place with multiple problems and few support systems. It is imperative for the community to support programs that will assist this growing population to stay independent and avoid premature institutionalization.

Some older adults need minimal service while others need multiple services to remain independent. **It is more cost effective to provide services in the community rather than paying the cost of institutional care.**

For example: The cost of institutional nursing home care is approximately \$7,000 a month (equivalent to \$83,000 a year) for one patient. **For less than the cost of institutional care for three frail elders, Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center can provide a range of activities to serve approximately over a thousand older adults annually to help improve health and maintain wellness.** Providing community-based services also adds to their quality of life since the majority of elders prefer to remain in their own homes.

Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and other senior center programs are cost-effective, preventive alternatives to institutionalization for older adults and give the State the opportunity to save money and to support the desire of older adults to remain independent in their own homes for as long as it is safely possible.

We ask for your support of SB 2347 with the two recommended changes. If I can provide any further information, please feel free to contact me via phone at 808-595-5901 or via email at diane.terada@catholiccharitieshawaii.org. Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2008 (1:30 p.m., Room 016)

RE: Support of SB 2347, Relating to Senior Centers

I am 84 years old and a member of the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center.

Please support the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and its membership of nearly 2,000 senior citizens with additional State funding in the amount of \$170,000.

I participate in the following Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center activities:

Hawaiian club - teaches us culture,
singing together & good fellowship
Buk-tuen-kin for exercise & fellowship

If there was NO Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, I would: note at
home. My husband has Alzheimer & I am
his primary caregiver so I need all the
fellowship I can get.

Please make additional funds for senior centers, like Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, a priority so that seniors like me can remain independent in the community! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Name:

Lena Keeno

Address:

1010 Alawa Drive
Hon 96817

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2008 (1:30 p.m., Room 016)

RE: Support of SB 2347, Relating to Senior Centers

I am 78 years old and a member of the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center.

Please support the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and its membership of nearly 2,000 senior citizens with additional State funding in the amount of \$170,000.

I participate in the following Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center activities:

Three months ago my husband passed away. I was married to Howard Hicks for 55 years. We enjoyed a wonderful life together. His death was a tremendous loss for me. It was a lonely time and I needed to get involved in activities to help me heal.

I am so fortunate because Lanakila's Senior Center offers many uplifting courses. I'm taking 3 workshops: Luau, Tule Koo, The Aulakulele classes. Most of all, the staff is extremely helpful because they offer!

If there was NO Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, I would:

social, physical, mental and spiritual activities to fulfill my needs. They also plan outings where seniors could go to nice restaurants, movies, etc. to enrich their lives. Lanakila is desperately needed for seniors. It enriches and fulfills senior needs.

Please make additional funds for senior centers, like Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, a priority so that seniors like me can remain independent in the community! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Name: Cecilia K. Hicks

Address: 1624 Alea Drive
Honolulu, HI 96817

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2008 (1:30 p.m., Room 016)

RE: **Support of SB 2347, Relating to Senior Centers**

I am 65 years old and a member of the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center.

Please support the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and its membership of nearly 2,000 senior citizens with additional State funding in the amount of \$170,000.

I participate in the following Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center activities:

*I come to be with Florendo
Laculad, he my closest friend
that is a activity helping her e
meals etc.
I'm also in the exercise classes
and member of 3, Cultural groups.*

If there was NO Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, I would: *hard
pressed to find a healthy way to
spent my time, the social inter-
action here is so very important to
a seniors, mental & physical
health!*

Please make additional funds for senior centers, like Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, a priority so that seniors like me can remain independent in the community! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Name:

William H Madigan

Address:

545, Queen St, Apt 210

Honoukaha Senior Apt's.

96813

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2008 (1:30 p.m., Room 016)

RE: Support of SB 2347, Relating to Senior Centers

I am 86 years old and a member of the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center. a WWII Survivor

Please support the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and its membership of nearly 2,000 senior citizens with additional State funding in the amount of \$170,000.

I participate in the following Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center activities:

UKOHEHE
SHOW & SEH
GROUP VOLUNTEER ENTERTAIN
AT NURSING HOMES, ADULT DAY
CARE, RETIREMENT HOMES,
REHAB & CONVALESCENT HOSPITALS

If there was NO Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, I would:

IN MOST PROBABILITY BE RESTING
IN PUNCH BOWL OR STATE
VETERANS CEMETARIES.

THIS CENTERS GIVES SENIORS SOMETHING TO
LOOK FORWARD TO HELPS TO KEEP THEM

Please make additional funds for senior centers, like Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, a priority so that seniors like me can remain independent in the community! Thank you.

ACTIVELY ALIVE & ALERT
AND PRODUCTIVE

Sincerely,

Name:

Wally S. S. Ho

Address:

99-655 AIGA HIG DR
AIGA, HI 96701

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2008 (1:30 p.m., Room 016)

RE: Support of SB 2347, Relating to Senior Centers

I am 67 years old and a member of the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center.

Please support the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and its membership of nearly 2,000 senior citizens with additional State funding in the amount of \$170,000.

I participate in the following Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center activities:

I belong to the Sewing group and sew
dibs and aprons for the Rehab Hospital of
the Pacific.

I also belong to the Ukulele class and
visit nursing homes each month to provide
entertainment for them.

I am a student in taisho koto - and am learning
how to play this instrument.
If there was NO Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, I would:
Have to be a full time care-giver
to my 91 year old mother. No fun at all!

Please make additional funds for senior centers, like Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, a priority so that seniors like me can remain independent in the community! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Name: Mary H. Sueda

Address: 98-1090 Ilee Street

Aiea, Hi 96701

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2008 (1:30 p.m., Room 016)

RE: Support of SB 2347, Relating to Senior Centers

I am 81 years old and a member of the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center.

Please support the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and its membership of nearly 2,000 senior citizens with additional State funding in the amount of \$170,000.

I participate in the following Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center activities:

Okeanawan Club, Beginner Ukulele + Mah Jong
Classes. These activities helps to keep my
mind functioning to the best of my
abilities; by learning and participating
with others in all phases, to better
ourselves.

If there was NO Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, I would: Just sit
at home, probably not doing very much,
as currently I'm living alone. There's
a very lonely feeling, when you are alone
24/7. Hope we can have all the support to
continue to have LMPSC so the seniors can enjoy
gathering with all the activities that being provided
to us.

Please make additional funds for senior centers, like Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, a priority so that seniors like me can remain independent in the community! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Name:

Sally Joyce

Address:

261-A N. Kaimali Dr.
Kailua, HI 96734

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2008 (1:30 p.m., Room 016)

RE: Support of SB 2347, Relating to Senior Centers

I am 69 years old and a member of the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center.

Please support the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and its membership of nearly 2,000 senior citizens with additional State funding in the amount of \$170,000.

I participate in the following Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center activities:

I enjoy coming to the center to do Tai Chi and
Jerk Tung Kuen. I just retired and have
diabetes. The exercise classes help me to
control my diabetes, make my mind alert by
interacting with other people. I would join
other classes like sewing, embroidery and dancing
as well to keep myself active.

If there was NO Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, I would: ^{lose} ~~lose~~ my
sense of belonging. I would not ^{be} looking forward to
get out of the house to do exercises to help my blood
sugar and blood pressure. I would not be able
to make friends and keep my life active. I would
just sit in my small apartment and be a couch potato
because I can't afford going anywhere with my state
pension.
Please make additional funds for senior centers, like Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, a priority so that seniors like me can remain independent in the community! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Name: Veronica Ku

Address: 1720 Huna St # 614

Honolulu HI 96817

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2008 (1:30 p.m., Room 016)

RE: Support of SB 2347, Relating to Senior Centers

I am 85 years old and a member of the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center.

Please support the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and its membership of nearly 2,000 senior citizens with additional State funding in the amount of \$170,000.

I participate in the following Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center activities:

I belong to Ukulele Class our Teacher is so great. And we really learn so much from her. Most of the people here are so nice. The people in the office are wonderful. This place is run real good.

If there was NO Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, I would:

I would be so hurt it is very lonely sitting home. And just walking around town. And know money to spend. We love it here. Please keep this place for us.

Please make additional funds for senior centers, like Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, a priority so that seniors like me can remain independent in the community! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Name:

Lorraine E. Howell

Address:

710 Alawa Dr.

Hon. HI 96917

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2008 (1:30 p.m., Room 016)

RE: Support of SB 2347, Relating to Senior Centers

I am 62 years old and a member of the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center.

Please support the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and its membership of nearly 2,000 senior citizens with additional State funding in the amount of \$170,000.

I participate in the following Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center activities:

Harmoungs Hula and Karate w/exercise,

If there was NO Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, I would: Be sad.

The center is a great place for "senior" exercise, socialization and a place where one can come and feel that you belong.

Please make additional funds for senior centers, like Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, a priority so that seniors like me can remain independent in the community! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Name:

Caroline Harano

Address:

2621-A Rooke Avenue

Honolulu 96817

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2008 (1:30 p.m., Room 016)

RE: Support of SB 2347, Relating to Senior Centers

I am 81 years old and a member of the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center.

Please support the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and its membership of nearly 2,000 senior citizens with additional State funding in the amount of \$170,000.

I participate in the following Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center activities:

Participating in the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center is my life saving second home. The many senior programs help me to stay healthy and well. It helps to keep me active. I can keep my balance and mobility and most important is socializing with other seniors in all the classes.

If there was NO Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, I would:

be lost. I would probably stay home and waste away. There would be no purpose to living - just watching television is not challenging.

Please make additional funds for senior centers, like Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, a priority so that seniors like me can remain independent in the community! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Name:

Winifred L. Lau

Address:

534 Maupu Lane

Honolulu, HI 96817

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2008 (1:30 p.m., Room 016)

RE: Support of SB 2347, Relating to Senior Centers

I am 82 years old and a member of the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center.

Please support the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and its membership of nearly 2,000 senior citizens with additional State funding in the amount of \$170,000.

I participate in the following Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center activities:

walking, Luk Tung Kuen, Rhythm of Life, Line Dance + singing and also working & service at our front desk.

These activities keeps me busy with exercise for health & keeping my mind sharp mentally.

Also, we are exchanging ideas & knowledge within our friends & members. About visiting their children on the mainland or something exciting happened to them. I consider Lanakila Senior Center my second home.

If there was NO Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, I would: _____

Be watching TV, very bored and because my eyes are not very good, doing most work is very limited.

Therefore, we need our center to help us active in hearing, walking & all different exercise. Please take care of us!

Please make additional funds for senior centers, like Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, a priority so that seniors like me can remain independent in the community! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Name:

Bertha Young

Address:

810 Iholena Place

Honolulu, HI 96817

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2008 (1:30 p.m., Room 016)

RE: Support of SB 2347, Relating to Senior Centers

I am 89 years old and a member of the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center.

Please support the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and its membership of nearly 2,000 senior citizens with additional State funding in the amount of \$170,000.

I participate in the following Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center activities:

Hawaiian club
craft class

If there was NO Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, I would: be lost, after participating here for 7 yrs. keeps me mentally & physically alert

Please make additional funds for senior centers, like Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, a priority so that seniors like me can remain independent in the community! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Name: Anita T. Hasegawa

Address: 1828 Young St. #708
Honolulu, HI 96826

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2008 (1:30 p.m., Room 016)

RE: Support of SB 2347, Relating to Senior Centers

I am 75 years old and a member of the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center.

Please support the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and its membership of nearly 2,000 senior citizens with additional State funding in the amount of \$170,000.

I participate in the following Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center activities:

Tai chi

Hula

Line Dancing

Exercise with Karate

If there was NO Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, I would: _____

Miss my twice weekly activities, which would make me sad.

A happy senior is a healthy senior. The Senior Center is a healthier and cheaper choice to a nursing home.

Please make additional funds for senior centers, like Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, a priority so that seniors like me can remain independent in the community! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Name:

Inabel Ishimoto

Address:

1807 A Makuanani St.
Honolulu, HI. 96817

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2008 (1:30 p.m., Room 016)

RE: Support of SB 2347, Relating to Senior Centers

I am 88 years old and a member of the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center.

Please support the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and its membership of nearly 2,000 senior citizens with additional State funding in the amount of \$170,000.

I participate in the following Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center activities:

I am in many clubs such as Japanese & Okinawan clubs. I also exercise. I do line dancing and taichi, and rytham & life. I also spend time socializing.

If there was NO Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, I would: I would go crazy! I would just stay home. Lanakila helps me stay active.

Please make additional funds for senior centers, like Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, a priority so that seniors like me can remain independent in the community! Thank you.

Sincerely, Betty Hasegawa

Name: Betty Hasegawa

Address: 640 Hawaii St.

Hon, 96817

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2008 (1:30 p.m., Room 016)

RE: Support of SB 2347, Relating to Senior Centers

I am 91 years old and a member of the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center.

Please support the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and its membership of nearly 2,000 senior citizens with additional State funding in the amount of \$170,000.

I participate in the following Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center activities:

As a senior I enjoy coming to meet others of my peers that I don't have at home. We gather for assembly & learn new information that we may not learn at home or w/ my family who has no time to really enrich my life. I participate in leadership programs, & volunteer to help enrich others lives. I've learn to be involve so I can relax & feel ~~no~~ tension, pain seems to subside and the idea that I can be more flexible so I feel like I'm 65 again

If there was NO Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, I would: be growing older each day. T.V. would be my best friend & feeling of lock-up would be always around. I don't want to feel like that again. I like the freedom to go and enjoy & keep my mind going & feeling good w/ no pity of worries.

Please make additional funds for senior centers, like Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, a priority so that seniors like me can remain independent in the community! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Name: Ann Trejeira Hines

Address: 842 Kunaawai Lane
96817

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2008 (1:30 p.m., Room 016)

RE: Support of SB 2347, Relating to Senior Centers

I am 87 years old and a member of the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center.

Please support the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and its membership of nearly 2,000 senior citizens with additional State funding in the amount of \$170,000.

I participate in the following Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center activities:

Chi Chi Exercise
Luk Tung Kulan Exercise
Line Dancing
Hawaiian Clubs
Chinese Cultural Club
Allen Kong's Ukulele Class

If there was NO Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, I would: Be watching TV all day. I will be bored and won't be exercising. I need to exercise, because I have high cholesterol and high blood pressure. I want to improve my Chinese language by ~~learning~~ hearing and speaking Chinese. I need to be among people to learn and share.

Please make additional funds for senior centers, like Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, a priority so that seniors like me can remain independent in the community! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Name:

Lily Choy

Address:

2924 Ala Puana Place

Honolulu, HI 96818

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2008 (1:30 p.m., Room 016)

RE: Support of SB 2347, Relating to Senior Centers

I am 91 years old and a member of the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center.

for 21 yrs.

Please support the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and its membership of nearly 2,000 senior citizens with additional State funding in the amount of \$170,000.

I participate in the following Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center activities:

Japanese Cultural club - membership chairlady
Hawaiian Quilting - am teaching this class.
Telephone receptionist in the office
for 19 yrs.
Please help us!!!

If there was NO Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, I would: *not be what I am today. Healthy, youthful looking (smile) and enjoying my "old age" with wonderful friends and staff.*
We really need your kokua - members of the legislature

Please make additional funds for senior centers, like Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, a priority so that seniors like me can remain independent in the community! Thank you.

Sincerely, *Gladys Takamoto*

Name: GLADYS TAKAMOTO

Address: 1846 MAKUAHINE ST.

HON. HI 96817

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2008 (1:30 p.m., Room 016)

RE: Support of SB 2347, Relating to Senior Centers

I am 91 years old and a member of the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center.

Please support the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and its membership of nearly 2,000 senior citizens with additional State funding in the amount of \$170,000.

I participate in the following Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center activities:

Hawaiian Club
Portuguese Club
Hula Harmonys class

If there was NO Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, I would: be lost & will miss the friends I made here at Lanakila
I joined here 20 years ago.

Please make additional funds for senior centers, like Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, a priority so that seniors like me can remain independent in the community! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Name: Sally Rosuayo (Salud)

Address: 2938 Kaluhi St

Hon HI 96819

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2008 (1:30 p.m., Room 016)

RE: Support of SB 2347, Relating to Senior Centers

I am 20 years old and a member of the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center.

Please support the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and its membership of nearly 2,000 senior citizens with additional State funding in the amount of \$170,000.

I participate in the following Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center activities:

as member of several clubs I had learn about their traditional Cultural History and doing Volunteering work for the club that keep me busy

If there was NO Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, I would:

Stay Home, and I be physical & mental in active.

Please make additional funds for senior centers, like Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, a priority so that seniors like me can remain independent in the community! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Name:

Gregory Jeong

Address:

1430 Kuahaka St

PC 96782

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2008 (1:30 p.m., Room 016)

RE: Support of SB 2347, Relating to Senior Centers

I am 92 years old and a member of the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center.

Please support the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and its membership of nearly 2,000 senior citizens with additional State funding in the amount of \$170,000.

I participate in the following Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center activities:

I play Go, cards, and talk story. I also am a member in the okinawan club.

If there was NO Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, I would: _____

I would stay home.

Please make additional funds for senior centers, like Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, a priority so that seniors like me can remain independent in the community! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Name: _____

Yoshiko Toku

Address: _____

94-081 Alapocai Pl.

Mililani HI 96789

Senate
Committee on Human Services & Public Housing
Hearing, Tuesday, January 29, 2008, 1:30 p.m.

**TESTIMONY FOR SB 2347,
– RELATING TO SENIOR CENTERS**

My name is Jill Kitamura, Senior Program Director at the Moiliili Community Center. Thank you for this opportunity to testify on behalf of Senate Bill 2347 – Relating to Senior Centers.

Moiliili and Lanakila Senior Centers are included in the State Executive Office on Aging budget (under the Department of Health) at the same funding level for 10 years, while operational costs continue to rise every year.

At Moiliili Community Center, the appropriation we are requesting is less than half the cost of operating the program. Senior participants are willing and have put in a share of the costs to run the program. But many cannot afford to pay the full cost. Moiliili Community Center and the Senior Center program fund raises the rest of the costs. Without the assistance from the state, we would not be able to provide these activities and services at an affordable level to many. Do we want more seniors needing Long Term care services for a longer period of time? At a very large cost to the State? Or do we want to keep them active and involved for as long as possible? At a total cost of about \$200 per person per year?

Senior Center programs are important in keeping seniors involved with others, with the community; assisting them to maintain their independence with information, resources and with maintaining their social, mental, and physical health. Senior Center programs are not all play. The exercise classes are the most popular – whether it is tai chi, or yoga, or stretching classes. Seminars are held regularly to keep people informed of various topics or resources. Research has shown that keeping the mind active is important: scrabble, talking with others, mah jongg, soroban, are all fun ways to keep the mind active. It is also a place for care givers to find some respite for themselves – taking exercise, ukulele, or a craft. Last year, over 12,000 hours were

put in by volunteers at the Center – through teaching or leading classes or groups, doing crafts for the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society’s layette program, performing at Day Cares, Intermediate Care Facilities, for the community, assisting in the office, working in the Thrift Shop, assisting others at the Center. This could not be possible without someone to coordinate all these areas.

Our participants range from age 60 to 99. They range in income from very minimum to high. They range in physical abilities from the healthy hikers to those in wheelchairs or walkers. They range in mental abilities from the alert to early Alzheimer or dementia. There are many who cannot read or understand English well, and need assistance in day to day activities, letter reading or the filling of forms. Aside from the classes and activities, we provide one-to-one services, giving information and referral to community resources, assisting with transportation to the doctors, marketing assistance, and telephone reassurance. These services would end without the subsidy.

I ask for your support for Senate Bill 2347. Thank you for your time and attention.

Jill Kitamura
Moiliili Senior Center
Moiliili Community Center
2535 South King Street
Honolulu, HI 96826
Phone: (808) 955-1555

January 24, 2008

TO: The Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Members of the House Senate Committee on Human Services and Public
Housing

FROM: Mary Guidroz

RE: SB 2347 RELATING TO SENIOR CENTERS

Hearing Date: Tuesday, January 29, 2008
Time: 1:30 pm
Place: Conference Room 016

Dear Chair Suzanne Chun Oakland and Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services and Public Housing:

My name is Mary Guidroz. I am a member of Waikiki Community Center and live in Waikiki. I am 82 years old and live by myself. The Senior Program at Waikiki Community Center is so important to me and my fellow seniors. We can't do without it. Where else could we go? My son lives on Maui, so I'm all alone and don't have anyone to help me. I participate in as many things as I can at the Waikiki Community Center. It keeps me alert and I've made many friends there.

Last spring, I lost my benefits because I forgot to fill out my forms on time and the social worker at Waikiki Community Center helped me to get my benefits back right away. Now she helps me keep all of my records updated, including Medicare, Medicaid and food stamps. And just recently, my rent increased so I had to find a cheaper place to live. She helped me apply for senior housing and I was able to get in. I hope I am able to stay there for the rest of my life.

Waikiki Community Center helps us all. Please support SB 2347 so that the senior citizens like me in all the communities will have a place to go when we need help.



Board of Directors

January 25, 2007

Carolyn Gugelyk
Chair

TO: The Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Members of the House Senate Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

Jim Nishimoto, AIA
1st Vice Chair

Rick Egged
2nd Vice Chair

FROM: Joan Naguwa, Executive Director
Waikiki Community Center

Sheryl Siu
Secretary

RE: SB 2347 RELATING TO SENIOR CENTERS

Linda Lee
Treasurer

Hearing Date: Tuesday, January 29, 2008
Time: 1:30 pm
Place: Conference Room 016

Thomas Barlow, PhD

Gregory Boxold

Faye Chiogioji

Dear Chair Suzanne Chun Oakland and Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services and Public Housing:

Karl Fujii

My name is Joan Naguwa, Executive Director of Waikiki Community Center (WCC). Waikiki Community Center **supports SB 2347, Relating to Senior Centers**. We thank the Hawaii State Legislature for its efforts to provide needed support for Hawaii's growing elderly population.

Jo Ann Mau

Leona Nakaahiki

Jessica Rich

SB 2347 provides funding (\$81,000) for Waikiki Community Center's Senior Program as well as that of Lanakila Multipurpose Senior Center (\$170,000), Moiliili Community Center (\$85,000) and the Kapahulu Center (\$80,000). Although all independent nonprofit organizations, we senior centers collectively provide more than 4,000 older adults with a place to gather for needed services and activities that support their independence and encourage healthy and engaged aging. Among these four (4) senior centers, the elderly in our communities are able to engage in healthy, productive activities and build social networks that are important to their ability to remain living independently in the community and to deter premature institutionalization, saving the State of Hawaii an estimated \$84,000 a year per senior citizen in long-term care costs.

Sheri Rolf

Chris Tatum

Susan Todani

Vivian Tsuji

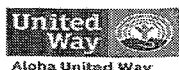
Rodney Wong

Joan Naguwa
Executive Director

It is common to find seniors over the age of 90 actively participating in these senior centers' activities. When needed, as these elder grow frailer, case management and counseling services are provided to help them connect with and manage the often-perplexing application processes and services. Support to their caregivers is also provided through information and assistance, counseling and helping them deal with the difficult job of caring for their elderly family members.

310 Paoakalani Avenue
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815
Phone: 808 923-1802
Fax: 808 922-2099

In particular, SB 2347 is critical to the continuation of services to the elderly in Waikiki. Approximately 25% of Waikiki's 20,000 residents are over the age of 60 years old. Waikiki has one of the highest numbers of senior citizens per area density on Oahu. Most of them live alone or with an equally older spouse and have little or no family support systems when they become frail. The typical elderly resident is female, mid 70's, living alone. Since most elders live in secured, mixed residential condominiums, they are especially vulnerable to



Senate Committee on Human Services and Public Housing
SB 2347, Relating to Senior Centers
Testimony from Waikiki Community Center
Hearing: Tuesday, January 29, 2008, 1:30 pm, Conference Room 016

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social isolation and difficulty in accessing services when needed. The appropriation through SB 2347 will support the continuation and availability of needed programs and services to elders in the specific communities.

We urge your support for the passage of SB 2347 and respectfully ask for the Dept. of Health, rather than the Dept. of Human Services, to be the assign agency for this bill. The Dept. of Health, Executive Office on Aging, has previously worked with all senior centers named in this bill and would be in the best position to oversee this appropriation.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit our testimony.

January 25, 2008

TO: The Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Members of the House Senate Committee on Human Services and Public
Housing

FROM: Edna Takeshita

RE: SB 2347 RELATING TO SENIOR CENTERS

Hearing Date: Tuesday, January 29, 2008
Time: 1:30 pm
Place: Conference Room 016

Dear Chair Suzanne Chun Oakland and Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services and Public Housing:

My name is Edna Takeshita. I am a member of Waikiki Community Center. Waikiki Community Center has helped me a lot, especially with transportation. The social worker there helped me get the van for me so I can make arrangements to see my doctors. I also take the van to Waikiki Community Center for my line dance class where I volunteer to check people in. If it weren't for the van service, I would not be able to get to the center and visit my friends. I am unmarried so this weekly activity is very important to me because it's when I get to socialize and watch the dancers.

I really appreciate the services and programs at Waikiki Community Center. I know that whenever I need something, the program supports me. Please support SB 2347 so that the program can continue. We, the seniors, really need it!

January 24, 2008

TO: The Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Members of the House Senate Committee on Human Services and Public
Housing

FROM: Dorothy Burns

RE: SB 2347 RELATING TO SENIOR CENTERS

Hearing Date: Tuesday, January 29, 2008
Time: 1:30 pm
Place: Conference Room 016

Dear Chair Suzanne Chun Oakland and Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services and Public Housing:

My name is Dorothy Burns. I am an 84 year old single female resident of Waikiki. I live by myself. I have children but they live in Canada and seldom visit me. So, I often need help with some of my decisions and found Waikiki Community Center to be very helpful.

I have been a member of Waikiki Community Center since the 1990's and participate in their classes and outings as well as volunteer in the community. When I needed help, they helped me find a new home to move to because I needed to find a cheaper place to live, as my rent keeps going up. They also helped me find a good Medicare D prescription plan for my prescriptions and helped fill out the forms for me. They also asked me if I needed any other help at home, but I don't yet. They are very, very helpful. I don't know what I would've done without them. They are wonderful people.

Please support SB 2347 so they can continue to help me in the future.

January 25, 2008

TO: The Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Members of the House Senate Committee on Human Services and
Public Housing

FROM: Karen and John Van Tine

RE: SB 2347 RELATING TO SENIOR CENTERS

Hearing Date: Tuesday, January 29, 2008
Time: 1:30 pm
Place: Conference Room 016

Dear Chair Suzanne Chun Oakland and Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services and Public Housing:

We are members of Waikiki Community Center and live in Waikiki. Since we moved here in 2003, we have made many friends through Waikiki Community Center's programs. We keep active and healthy by participating in the many activities at the Waikiki Community Center. Though we are both retired seniors, we are also involved in community volunteer work as an attempt to give back to our island home.

Many of our friends at Waikiki Community Center are not as fortunate in their aging as we are, facing ill health, declining mental powers, housing emergencies and other challenges which they find confusing, daunting and discouraging. In these and other situations, Waikiki Community Center has offered aid and assistance, providing information, counseling and needed support to elders in distress. In these and other situations, Waikiki Community Center has offered aid and assistance, providing information, counseling and needed support to elders in distress.

We urge you to support SB2347 and do all you can to help maintain the current services of this helpful and necessary program, so that Waikiki seniors can continue having a place to turn to build a support network and to help with their problems and concerns.