

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

Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Ways and Means Committee
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96766

Re: Support of SB 2876 Relating to Employment Security

Dear Chair Baker 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

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
Hawaii Correctional Industries
919 Ala Moana Boulevard, 4th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

CLAYTON A. FRANK
DIRECTOR

DAVID F. FESTERLING
Deputy Director
Administration

TOMMY JOHNSON
Deputy Director
Corrections

JAMES L. PROPOTNICK
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

No. _____

February 21, 2008

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Ways and Means Committee
Support of SB 2876 Relating to Employment Security

Dear Senator Baker and Committee Members:

My name is Matthew "Matt" Kaneshiro and I am the Department of Public Safety, Hawaii Correctional Industries Division Administrator. Hawaii Correctional Industries is a rehabilitation vocational program, which provides inmates meaningful work and on-the-job training while incarcerated readying them for successful transition back into our community.

Correctional Industries has been involved with the Going Home Project due to the Department's commitment towards their vision and belief in assisting to provide programs and services which effects successful transition of offenders, post incarceration.

I ask for your support of SB2876 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

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

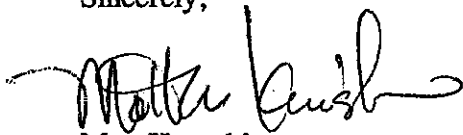
Page 2

February 21, 2008

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 SB2876.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Kaneshiro", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Matt Kaneshiro
Administrator
(808) 587-3475



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

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

February 22, 2008

To: Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Gregg Yamanaka, Chair
Workforce Development Council

Subject: SB2876 Relating to Employment Security
Appropriates Reed Act funds for Workforce Development Programs
Hearing Friday, February 22, 2008; 11:00 a.m.; Conference Room 211

The Workforce Development Council (“WDC”) **strongly supports the intent** of SB2876. It is our understanding that it is intended to provide the Hawaii County Workforce Investment Board (“HCWIB”) with a \$2 million appropriation in Reed Act funds from the Unemployment Trust Fund. Background information on the “Reed Act fund” and similar bills in the last two legislative sessions is provided as an Attachment to this testimony.

WDC is well aware of the ill-effect that severe cuts in federal funding has had on the ongoing operations of the state’s workforce system. The 2006 allocation of Reed Act funds permitted the county workforce investment boards, including HCWIB, to advance activities that have benefited both Hawaii’s employers and job seekers. HCWIB, through its initiative, has implemented most of its planned activities and utilized its allocation of Reed Act funds. 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”).¹

\$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;

¹ 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.

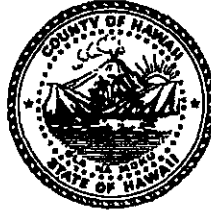
Act 190, SLH 2006 became effective on July 1, 2006. It specified that appropriated funds must be legally obligated before June 30, 2007, and obligated expenditures must be made before June 30, 2008.

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 corrected². The bill passed as Act 123, SLH 2007 and became effective on June 29, 2007.³

² Language in Act 190, SLH 2006 conflicted with federal restrictions regarding use of the funds. WDC therefore did not request release of its funds until Act 123, SLH 2007 provided revised language acceptable to USDOL.

³ 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

891 Ululani Street • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720-3982 • (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553
KONA: 75-5706 Kuakini Highway, Suite 103 • Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740
(808) 329-5226 • Fax (808) 326-5663

February 20, 2008

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Committee on Ways and Means
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Baker and Committee Members:

Re: SB 2876

I submit this testimony in support of SB 2876.

In 2006, this Legislature appropriated \$10,000,000 (Act 190) 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 re-entry 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.

We are asking 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 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, the funds will be effectively used for the benefit of the community.

Aloha,

Handwritten signature of Harry Kim in black ink.
Harry Kim
MAYOR

Attachment

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 HCWIB
- 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 furlongees
- 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

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 Kahoelehua 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 and worksho--

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 20, 2008

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
The Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Ways and Means

Twenty-Fifth Legislature
Regular Session of 2008

SUBJECT: Senate Bill 2876 Relating to Employment Security
Hearing Date: Friday, February 22, 2008
Time: 11:00 a.m.
Conference Room 211

The Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD) supports Senate House Bill 2876 as it pertains to Hawai'i County.

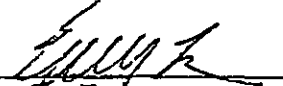
The OHCD is the grant recipient and administrator of the Workforce Investment Act and Reed Act funds for Hawai'i County.

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 SB 2876.

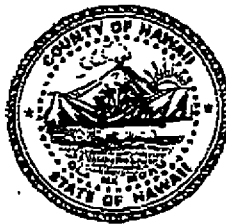
Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.


Edwin S. Taira
Housing Administrator



JAY T. KIMURA
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

CHARLENE Y. IBOSHI
FIRST DEPUTY
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

655 Kilauea Avenue
HILO, HAWAII 96720
PH: 961-0466
FAX: 961-8908
934-3408
934-3503

WEST HAWAII UNIT
81-980 HALEKII ST, SUITE 150
KEALAKEKUA, HAWAII 96750
PH: 322-2562
FAX: 322-8584

February 20, 2008

Sen. Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Ways and Means Committee
Support of SB 2876 Relating to Employment Security

Dear Chair Baker and Committee members:

I ask for your support of SB2876 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 SB2876.

Sincerely yours,

JAY T. KIMURA
Prosecuting Attorney

CLYDE T. OSHIRO

Certified Public Accountant
319 Kinoole Street
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

Phone: (808) 935-0885 Fax: (808) 961-5881 e-mail: oshirocpa@hawaiiantel.net

February 18, 2008

Before the Senate Ways and Means Committee
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chairperson

Re: In Support of SB 2876 Relating to Employment Security

Dear Chair Baker and Committee members:

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

I ask for your support of SB2876 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 SB2876.

Respectfully Submitted,



Clyde T. Oshiro

Member of Hawaii County WIB



Kanoiehua Industrial Area Assn., Inc.
820 Pillani Street, Suite 201
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Phone (808) 961-5422 • Fax (808) 935-9740

Sen. Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Ways and Means Committee
Support of SB 2876 Relating to Employment Security

Dear Chair Baker and Committee members:

I am Allan Onishi, President 07-08, of the Kanoiehua 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 SB2876 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; Huihana, 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 Huihana 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 SB2876.

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

FEB-19-2008 TUE 03:14 PM HHS-CAREER CENTER

FAX NO. 8089744068

P. 05

Sen. Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Ways and Means Committee
Support of SB 2876 Relating to Employment Security

Dear Chair Baker and Committee Members:

I am the Career and Technical Education 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 SB2876 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 SB2876.

Sincerely,



Heidi Pana

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

University of Hawai'i

HAWAII COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Continuing Education and Training

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB2876

February 21, 2008

Post-it® Fax Note	7671	Date 2/21/08	# of pages 1
To	Subale Sgt. at Arms	From	Donna Madrid
Co./Dept.			Hawaii Community College
Phone #		Phone #	974-7531
Fax #	586-6659	Fax #	

Sen. Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
 Committee on Judiciary and Labor
 Support of SB 2876 Relating to Employment Security
 Hearing: February 21, 2008 at 11AM

Dear Chair Taniguchi and Committee members:

I'm Donna Madrid. I'm the Director of the Rural Development Program at Hawaii Community College in Hilo. Our program has been very active with workforce development and job creation projects on the Big Island since 1998, particularly using Federal funds.

Our program has worked very closely with our local WIB and its many affiliated organizations throughout these years. In looking at what the Federal Department of Labor is currently encouraging in terms of local collaboration among all involved with workforce issues, I think what we have been able to forge together on the Big Island is very good and may be of serious interest as a national model.

I support SB2876. It will significantly help us to build on what has already been achieved. Going Home will help transition our former prisoners back into our community with job-ready skills. Huiana internship program is developing a win-win situation among local employers, students, parents, schools, and involved organizations. The Big Island's WDD and the Mayor (and his administration) have been outstanding in their energetic and creative ways of building our workforce and could do much more with the appropriate resources.

Please provide support; specifically for the \$2,000,000 in this bill, and generally for the trailblazing pace on the Big Island. Mahalo.



Donna Madrid, Director
 Rural Development Program
 Hawaii Community College
 200 W. Kawili Street
 Hilo, HI 96720
 Office: 974-7531

FEB-19-2008 TUE 03:14 PM HHS-CAREER CENTER

FAX NO. 8089744068

P. 04

Sen. Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Ways and Means Committee
Support of SB 2876 Relating to Employment Security

Dear Chair Baker 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 SB2876 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 SB2876.

Sincerely,



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

FEB-19-2008 TUE 03:14 PM HHS-CAREER CENTER

FAX NO. 8089744068

P. 03

Sen. Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Ways and Means Committee
Support of SB 2876 Relating to Employment Security

Dear Chair Baker and Committee Members:

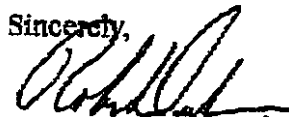
I am the Principal at Hilo High School in the Hilo-Laupahoehoe-Waiakea Complex Area in the Department of Education. We have been active partners with the Hawaii County Workforce Development Division supporting successful initiatives and other educational programs to prepare our youth for the workforce.

We ask for your support of SB2876 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 SB2876.

Sincerely,



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

FEB-19-2008 TUE 03:14 PM HHS-CAREER CENTER

FAX NO. 8089744068

P. 02

Sen. Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Ways and Means Committee
Support of SB 2876 Relating to Employment Security

Dear Chair Baker and Committee Members:

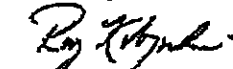
I am a consultant representing Complex Area Superintendent Valerie Takata and the Hilo-Laupahoehoe-Waiakea Complex Area in the Department of Education. We have been active partners with the Hawaii County Workforce Development Division supporting successful initiatives and other educational programs to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

We ask for your support of SB2876 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 SB2876.

Sincerely,



Ray 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

Sen. Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Ways and Means Committee
Support of SB 2876 Relating to Employment Security

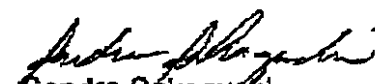
Dear Chair Baker and Committee members:

I serve as the Executive Director of the Hawaii Island Workforce & Economic Development Ohana, a non-profit established in Hawaii 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 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 SB 2876


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

Testimony
By Ted Sakai
Senate Bill 2876 Relating to Employment Security
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Roslyn Baker, Chair
Friday, February 22, 2008, 11:00 a.m.
Conference Room 211, State Capitol

Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

I support the passage of Senate Bill 2876, Relating to Employment Security. This bill appropriates funds to the various county workforce investment boards to improve employer outreach and services, labor pool expansion, capacity building and operation of one stop career centers within each county.

My testimony is focused on the activity of the Workforce Investment Board in the County of Hawaii. After retiring from a career with the Department of Public Safety, I have been privileged to be involved with a dynamic consortium of public agencies, private agencies, and individual citizens called the Going Home Committee. Going Home seeks to insure that needed services are available to the criminal offender who is in the community after finishing a term of incarceration. This helps the community, as the offender becomes a productive, law-abiding citizen; the correctional system, as it can relieve prison overcrowding in the long run; and the individual offenders and their families.

Among other things, the County of Hawaii WIB has supported the efforts of the Going Home Committee. Because of this support, Going Home partners have been able to help offenders in the community find employment. Gainful employment is among the most critical services needed by offenders making the transition from secure incarceration to life in the free world. Without gainful employment, the offender is not likely to succeed in the community. With the support of the County of Hawaii WIB, the Going Home partners have developed some truly innovative and effective programs to help offenders prepare for, secure, and retain meaningful jobs. SB 2876 will enable the County and Going Home to continue its current efforts and perhaps develop even more creative approaches to help the criminal offender.

SB2876 would enable the County to continue to support a much needed program that provides a sound re-entry program for offenders, promotes the public safety, and enables people to maintain their dignity.

Thank you.

Ted I. Sakai and Associates
47-571 Ahuimanu Road
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Ph: 808-722-3111 e-mail: sakait005@hawaii.rr.com



Now Beginnings to Independence!

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Ways and Means Committee
Support of SB 2876 Relating to Employment Security

Aloha Chair Baker and Committee Members:

As the Site Manager for the employment-readiness program Forward March on the Big Island, I humbly ask for your support of SB2876 as it pertains to Hawai'i County. Sponsored by the Hawai'i National Guard and the Department of Human Services, Forward March is designed to help adults become members of the workforce. About 35 percent of our clients have been incarcerated and are trying to re-integrate into society. Employment is a critical component of re-integration, and for ex-offenders it is a component that is often met with obstacles.

In 2006, the Hawai'i State Legislature appropriated \$10,000.00 statewide (Act 190, 2006) for the four county Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs) to combat these obstacles. Of that sum, \$1,900 came to Hawai'i County. The initiatives, including the Going Home Re-integration Initiative has helped many of our clients have the necessary tools to secure employment.

We in Hawai'i are requesting the State legislature appropriate another \$2,000,000 from these federal funds to enable us to continue initiatives related to improving our collaborative efforts and expand our Huiana and Going Home initiatives. Therefore, I humbly urge the committee to pass SB2876 and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Raenette Marino
Site Manager
Forward March
1990 Kino'ole Street
Suite 102
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

Sen. Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Ways and Means Committee
Support of SB2876 Relating to Employment Security

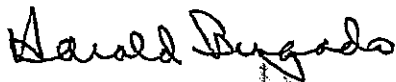
Dear Chair Baker and Committee members:

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 SB2876 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 SB2876.



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



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February 21, 2008

Sen. Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Ways and Means Committee
Support of SB 2876 Relating to Employment Security

Dear Chair Baker and Committee members:

My name is David S. De Luz, Jr. and I am a board member of the Hawaii County Work Force Board (HCWIB) and served since 2006 and currently also on the Planning and Membership Committees.

I ask for your support of SB2876 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.

On behalf of the Hawaii County I am 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 SB2876 and greatly appreciate your time and consideration on the vital legislation for the current and future investment in our work force development.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David S. De Luz, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

David S. De Luz, Jr.
Big Island Toyota, Inc.
Vice President
[djrl@bigislandtoyota.com](mailto:djr@bigislandtoyota.com)
(B) 808-935-2920, (C) 808-895-4294, (F) 808-443-0225

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testimony

From: Kenneth Rowe [krowe@dlir.state.hi.us]
Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2008 9:20 AM
To: testimony
Cc: Sandra Sakaguchi; Blayne Hanagami; Debra Saragosa; Andy Levin; Irene Nagao; Ted Sakai
Subject: Support of SB 2876 Relating to Employment Security

Sen. Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Ways and Means Committee
Support of SB 2876 Relating to Employment Security

Dear Chair Baker 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 lineage, born and raised on Hawaiian Community in Keaukaha, I would like to show my support for SB 2876. 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

SB 2876.

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 SB 2876 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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2/21/2008

Sen. Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Ways and Means Committee
Support of SB 2876 Relating to Employment Security
Hearing: February 5, 2008 at 9AM

Dear Chair Baker 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 SB 2876.

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