

**HB 1776**

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR



**LATE**

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April 3, 2009

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Lillian B. Koller, Director

SUBJECT: **H.B. 1776, H.D. 1, S.D.1 - RELATING TO PUBLIC ASSISTANCE**

Hearing: Friday, April 3, 2009; 9:45 a.m.  
Conference Room 211, State Capitol

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of H.B. 1776, H.D. 1 is to require the Department of Public Safety (PSD) to provide the Department of Human Services (DHS) with a monthly report listing newly admitted inmates; requires DHS to identify the status of each inmate on the monthly list with respect to the inmate's current receipt of public assistance; requires continuation of public assistance to inmates sentenced to be incarcerated in a public institution for not more than thirty days and termination of assistance to inmates sentenced to more than thirty days.

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) strongly opposes to Section 3 of this bill which would require new State funds to continue paying financial assistance for 30 days to incarcerated persons. Federal law prohibits the State from using Temporary Assistance For Needy Families (TANF) Federal funds for financial assistance to incarcerated persons.

Further, with respect to the rest of this bill, DHS supports PSD's recommendation that this bill does not need to be codified in statute and can be addressed via a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) or a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between PSD and DHS.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

# LATE

kim2 - Arline

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**From:** Michael Freitas [mikefaloha@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 03, 2009 8:11 AM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Fw: HB1776

Aloha Kakahiaka,

My name is Michael Freitas and I am writing in support HB1776. As a former State Eligibility worker with the Department of Human Services who determined and maintained a case load of in excess of two hundred cases at one time, I think this bill will help alleviate clients receiving over payments and the problems of trying to retrieve these over payments. There are also many other processes within the system that need to be changed. You may contact me at 391-3702 for a more detailed explanation of my concerns.

Michael Freitas