

SB 1679



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
919 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD, ROOM 113
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543
February 10, 2009

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

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
Senate Committee on Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senators Chun Oakland and Ige and Members of the Committees:

**SUBJECT: SB 1679 – RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND**

The position and views expressed in this testimony do not represent nor reflect the position and views of the Departments of Health (DOH) and Human Services.

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **SUPPORTS SB 1679 with proposed amendments**. The purpose of the bill is to appropriate moneys from the emergency and budget reserve fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and public welfare.

With respect to page 2, lines 1-16, the Council brings to your attention the shortfall projected for DD services in the current fiscal year. The amount stated as the projected shortfall is \$5.4 million. That amount included \$5 million for the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Medicaid Waiver Program and \$400,000 for the Partnerships in Community Living (PICL) Program. DOH, DD Division's budget (HTH 501) for FY 2009 includes the elimination of the PICL Program and a reduction in services for individuals with DD/Mental Retardation (MR) in the HCBS Medicaid Waiver Program. In addition, DD Division is experiencing a shortfall of \$267,420 for crisis services network for the current fiscal year.

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland
The Honorable David Y. Ige
Page 2
February 10, 2009

The Council proposes the following two amendments for your consideration:

1. Incorporate the provisions of SB 422-Relating to Health into SB 1679. SB 422 addresses the reduction in funds for the DOH Respite Program.
2. Revise the appropriation amount from \$5.4 million to \$7,963,340 for FY 2010 and the same amount for FY 2011. That amount includes:
 - A. \$7 million for the HCBS Medicaid Waiver Program,
 - B. \$500,000 for the PICL Program, and
 - C. \$463,340 for the DOH Respite Program (SB 422-Relating to Health).

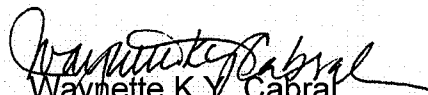
Attached are information about the HCBS Medicaid Waiver Program, DOH PICL Program, and DOH Respite Program to explain the above figures.

The Council is hopeful that the passage of the Economic Recovery and Reinvestment Act by Congress and signed by President Obama will provide Hawaii with some level of fiscal recovery. Hawaii will benefit from the proposed enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentage. The increase in Federal reimbursements will result in a decrease in the State's share and would allow for State funds to be redirected to other priority areas not matched by Federal funds. This may include the DOH PICL and Respite Programs.

We appreciate your consideration of the proposed amendments and recognize that SB 1679 is a work in progress. We will continue to work with the Legislature on this measure throughout the session.

Thank you for the opportunity to present our testimony in support of and amendments to SB 1679.

Sincerely,


Waynette K. V. Cabral
Executive Administrator

Attachments

**Department of Health (DOH), Developmental Disabilities (DD) Division
Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Medicaid Waiver Program
for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities/Mental Retardation (DD/MR)**

- Provides individuals with DD/MR support and services that will enable them to live as independently as possible in the least restrictive environment. Services include:
 - Adult Day Health
 - Personal Assistance
 - Respite
 - Habilitation
 - Habilitation-Supported Employment
 - Skilled Nursing
 - Specialized Services
 - Personal Emergency Response
 - Non-Medical Transportation
 - Specialized Medical Equipment
 - Environmental Accessibility Adaptations

- An individual must be eligible for Medicaid and require Intermediate Care Facility for the Mentally Retarded (ICF/MR) level of care.
- For FY 2008, 2,532 individuals were served, and \$107,145,000 was expended.
- DD Division will need about \$7 million more for FY 2010 in order to add 125 people into the waiver and continue level of services for those currently in the waiver.
- The budget remains at \$71million for FY 2010 and 2011.
- A letter from DOH, DD Division was mailed to over 2,500 participants in the HCBS Medicaid Waiver Program to inform them of a reduction in services for individuals with DD/MR.
- Based on the State's economic conditions, DD Division "must reduce all participant services by 15% in order to sustain our system of supports and maintain services."
- To do that, DD Division asked participants to tell the Division where the individual could make the reductions.
- Individuals were asked to complete a Budget Reduction Worksheet that contained their monthly target budget for February to June 2009 and a list of services.
- The reduction in services began on February 1, 2009.
- Services that are affected include:
 1. All levels of Personal Assistance Habilitation (including Chore),
 2. Adult Day Health,
 3. Consumer Directed (including Chore),
 4. Skilled Nursing, and
 5. Respite.
- The reduction in services will impact individuals in receiving necessary personal assistance and other services to live independently in the community.
- Over 2,000 participants have completed and returned their budget reduction worksheets.
- DD Division has sent out Notice of Action letters to those participants that included information on their right to appeal the decision of DD Division.
- Over 250 participants have filed an informal appeal with DD Division. Informal hearings have been scheduled beginning January 30, 2009.

**Department of Health (DOH)
Partnerships in Community Living (PICL) Program**

- Prior to the proposed elimination of the program, PICL's budget was \$1.4 million.
- A mandatory reduction of \$1.2 million was made in August 2008.
- Remaining \$200,000 was eliminated in the Governor's proposed budget for FY 2010 and FY 2011.
- Contracts with providers were terminated in December 2008.
- In accordance with Hawaii Revised Statutes, Section 333F-2(e), "...Only those individuals eligible for community services but not eligible for Medicaid waiver services or other federally reimbursed programs or for whom such services are not appropriate or not available based on their individual service plan shall receive services and supports with one hundred percent state funds."
- All participants, however, must first apply for Medicaid and the Developmental Disabilities/Mental Retardation (DD/MR) Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Medicaid Waiver Program prior to the receipt of any DD Division-funded services.
- The intent of PICL was to be a flexible source of funding to allow individuals to self-direct their supports to live in the community.
- For individuals with DD who are ineligible for Medicaid or any other federally-reimbursed services, PICL is their only source of support.
- Individuals receive services in the following cases:
 1. Pending determination for Medicaid waiver services;
 2. Medicaid eligible, but the Medicaid waiver or other program does not cover the service or item; or
 3. Ineligible for Medicaid or any other federally reimbursed services, but eligible to receive community services.
- Services include, but are not limited to:
 - Adaptive equipment
 - Adult community activities
 - Companionship
 - Clothing
 - Cleaning, kitchen, bathroom household supplies
 - Day program costs not covered by Medicaid waiver
 - Dental
 - Emergency supplies
 - Emergency placement supports
 - Legal services
 - Personal care items
 - Specialized youth program
 - Transportation
 - Technology supports
- Funding was limited (\$2,000 per referral), and referrals were on a first-come, first-served basis.
- For FY 2008, there were 1,404 referrals with \$1,153,519 expended.

**Department of Health (DOH)
Respite Program**

The DOH Respite Program's budget has been administered under the Health Resources Administration (HRA). The budget has taken its share of reductions of \$375,872 during the past 18 years resulting in \$624,128 for the program. Below is the breakdown of the budget and its reductions.

**DOH Respite Program Budget
Act 324, SLH 1990**

\$1,000,000	Act 324, SLH 1990 Appropriation
(\$375,872)	Minus Budget reductions
\$624,128	Remaining in operating budget
(\$51,316)	Minus 4% legislative reduction, transfer of funds to cover payroll shortfall, adjustment for personal services
\$572,812	Remaining in operating budget (minus the above reductions)

\$572,812	Operating Budget
(\$412,024)	Minus the Governor's proposed adjustments in the Executive Budget Request for FY 2010 and FY 2011
\$160,788	Actual amount available for the Respite Program

During the past year, the budget was affected by the four percent legislative reduction (\$30,732), transfer of funds to cover the payroll shortage for HRA (\$16,165), and adjustment for personal services (\$4,419). Those reductions left the program with \$572,812, until the Governor's proposed adjustments to the Executive Budget Request for FY 2010 and FY 2011 included the deletion of \$412,024 for respite services. The total reduction in the respite budget is \$463,340. Current budget for respite services is \$160,788. That amount divided by each of the six program areas means \$26,798 for each target group. Information about the DOH Respite Program and impact of the reduction in the budget is included in the attached FACT SHEET.

FACT SHEET

Department of Health (DOH) Respite Program

What is Respite?

- Respite provides temporary relief for a family, which helps to preserve the family unit by decreasing the individual and family stresses associated with caregiving so that families can continue to care for their loved ones. It is beneficial not only for the family caregiver, but also for the child or adult with special needs. It allows the family to engage in daily activities, decrease a feeling of isolation, increase the ability to cope with daily caregiving responsibilities, and maintain stability during crisis situations.
- Respite provides substitute support for a child or adult with special needs in order to provide a period of relief or rest for the family caregiver. Respite can allow time for the family caregiver to address personal needs, other business, or an unexpected emergency.
- Respite is an important part of the continuum of services for families who care for an individual with special needs. This support for families prevents burnout of the caregiver and reduces the possibility for out-of-home placement.

Who Receives Respite?

Families caring for a family member who is:

- An infant or toddler three years of age or younger with a developmental delay
- A child or adult up to age 21 with a serious or terminal illness
- A child with a serious emotional disturbance
- A child or an adult with a developmental disability
- An adult with a serious mental illness

Who Provides Respite?

Currently, the Respite Program affords respite to the families of clients from six program areas of four divisions of DOH, per the intent of Act 324, SLH 1990. Each of these six program areas split the respite funds equally (approximately \$104,000 per program area - before budget reductions). In addition, the programs work together and have transferred funds between programs to cover shortfalls experienced by one or more of the other programs.

- **Family Health Services Division – Early Intervention Section (EIS)** - Provides respite support to families in two program areas - medically fragile children or youth up to age 21 and infants and toddlers with developmental delays three years of age or younger.
- **Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division (CAMHD)** – Provides respite support to families for children with a serious emotional disturbance.
- **Developmental Disabilities Division (DDD)** - Provides respite support to families in two program areas – respite is available to families of individuals (children and adults) with developmental disabilities and/or mental retardation (DD/MR) who are not in the DD/MR Home and Community-Based Medicaid Waiver Program.
- **Adult Mental Health Division (AMHD)** – Provides respite services via a single, statewide provider, Mental Health Kokua. A respite housing pilot was initiated that will present a valuable resource to families and providers in the community and a formal contract modification was completed. Due to the recent budget reduction of \$25 million

to the AMHD budget, the contract with Mental Health Kokua was terminated effective January 15, 2009. Respite funds were being used to supplement funds provided through the AMHD operating budget (approximately 25 percent of the total contract expenditures).

What are the Budget Expenditures for Fiscal Year 2008?

Fiscal Year 2008

Division	FSHD – EIS	CAMHD	DDD	AMHD	Total
Amount Spent	\$202,627	\$ 104,021 (estimate)	\$156,110	\$423,208* (\$98,000 in respite funds)	\$560,768
Number of Families Served	544	73	194	34	845
Number of Families Waiting For Services	35	Data Not available	Data Not available	Not Applicable	Data Not available

* Total contract amount. Respite funds used to supplement small portion of the contract.

What is Extent of the Budget Reduction?

The respite program budget sustained a discretionary reduction for FY 09 of approximately \$51,316. The Governor’s recommendation in the executive budget for the FB 2009-2011 further reduces the amount for respite by \$412,024, resulting in a total appropriation of \$160,788 to be shared among the six program areas.

What is the Impact of a Budget Reduction?

Overall, the budget reduction would have an adverse impact on the provision of respite for families and individuals with special needs. As respite is reduced, families will become more “at risk” for out-of-home placement, foster care, and possibly higher levels of care. In addition, it is more cost effective to provide respite funds to families than to pay for foster care or out-of-home placement if families are unable to care for their loved ones at home.

- **Family Health Services Division – Early Intervention Section (EIS) –**
 - A determination will need to be made as to whether to reduce the number of families served or reduce the respite hours per month.
 - The waitlist for respite services is expected to increase.
 - Reduction in Federal grant funding – general funds from the respite appropriation have been used as a “match” required to leverage the Federal Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention Grant.

- **Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division (CAMHD) –**
 - Possible increases in out-of-home placements and higher levels of care, such as therapeutic foster care, community-based residential care, or hospital-based residential care, which are much more restrictive and costly.

- **Developmental Disabilities Division (DDD) –**
 - Allotments for respite services of children and adults would decrease, with a more significant reduction of respite allotment for Neighbor Islands.
 - Anticipates that it will be receiving more requests for respite services that will exceed their annual portion, particularly from families who do not qualify for Medicaid, are not eligible for the DD/MR Medicaid Waiver Program respite services, or have had a reduction in respite services under the waiver program.

- **Adult Mental Health Division (AMHD) –**
 - AMHD Respite services contract with Mental Health Kokua was terminated effective January 15, 2009. All consumers with open authorizations for respite as of January 1, 2009 were transitioned to AMHD Peer Coaching services that provide similar support for consumers and respite for caregivers delivered by a peer.

Date: 02/10/2009

Committee: Senate Health-Senate Human Services

Department: Education

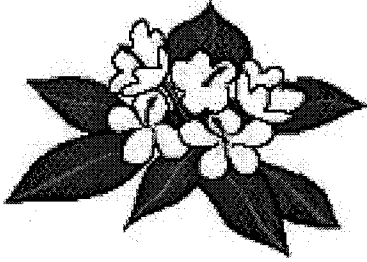
Person Testifying: Patricia Hamamoto, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 1679 RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND.

Purpose of Bill: Appropriates moneys from the emergency budget and reserve fund to maintain levels of programs for education, human services, and health.

Department's Position: The Department of Education supports Senate Bill 1679, as long as this appropriation would be additional funds and would not decrease our base budget. The Department would recommend to the Board of Education that any additional funds appropriated over and above the base budget approved by the Board, would be allocated to the Weighted Student Formula (WSF) for the most flexibility in supporting student achievement and providing needed services, supplies, and equipment to our students, including textbooks or other instructional materials. Schools would have more flexibility to contract for various therapist services as student needs were determined, or hire personnel for the school level supports to ensure all students are progressing academically, emotionally, physically, and socially. The flexibility in the use of WSF funds would provide the maximum ability to teach and support the whole child.

The Department supports Senate Bill 1679.



S E A C
Special Education Advisory Council

919 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 101

Honolulu, HI 96814

Phone: 586-8126 Fax: 586-8129

email: spin@doh.hawaii.gov

February 10, 2009

**Special Education
Advisory Council**

Ms. Ivalee Sinclair, *Chair*
Mr. Steve Laracuente, *Vice
Chair*

Ms. Brendelyn Ancheta
Dr. Paul Ban, *Liaison
to the Superintendent*
Ms. Sue Brown
Ms. Deborah Cheeseman
Ms. Phyllis DeKok
Ms. Mary Ellis
Ms. Debra Farmer
Ms. Gabriele Finn
Ms. Martha Guinan
Mr. Henry Hashimoto
Mr. John Hinkle
Ms. Tami Ho
Ms. Barbara Ioli
Ms. Shanelle Lum
Ms. Rachel Matsunobu
Ms. June Motokawa
Ms. Kristy Nishimura
Ms. Connie Perry
Ms. Barbara Pretty
Ms. Kau'i Rezendes
Dr. Patricia Sheehey
Mr. August Suehiro
Ms. Judy Tonda
Ms. Cari White
Ms. Jasmine Williams
Mr. Duane Yee
Mr. Shawn Yoshimoto

Jan Tateishi, Staff
Susan Rocco, Staff

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services, and
The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
Senate Committee on Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: SB 1679 – RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND
BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Dear Senators Chun Oakland and Ige and Members of the Committees:

The Special Education Advisory Council, Hawaii's State Advisory Panel under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), supports the intent of SB 1679 to utilize monies from the emergency and budget reserve fund to avert detrimental budget cuts to services related to education, health and public welfare. We are particularly concerned with placing a priority on funds essential to the maintenance of educational benefit for students with disabilities and to services required by federal mandate under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

SEAC is also in favor of using these emergency funds to maintain a safety net for individuals with developmental disabilities under the DD Waiver to allow them to pursue their vocational and independent living goals. We likewise support continued respite services to families of individuals with disabilities, as these services enable families to better participate in their child's educational and vocational goals by providing periodic breaks from caregiving.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on this issue. Should you have any questions regarding our position, you are welcome to contact me by phone or email.

Sincerely,

Ivalee Sinclair, Chair



CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAII

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Less Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair
Committee on Health

FROM: Stella M.Q. Wong
Vice President of Programs

DATE of Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009
1:15 p.m., Room 016

SUBJECT: **Testimony in support of SB1679**

Chair Chun-Oakland and Chair Ige and Members of the Senate Committees on Human Services and Health, my name is Stella Wong and I am the Vice President of Programs at Catholic Charities Hawai'i. I am testifying in support of SB1679, relating to the EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND.

Catholic Charities Hawai'i (CCH) is a tax exempt, non-profit agency that has been providing social services in Hawai'i for over 60 years. CCH has programs serving elderly, children, developmentally disabled, homeless and immigrants. Our mission is to provide services to the most vulnerable of the people in Hawai'i.

With the current economic situation, we see these numbers growing. There are more people coming to our food pantry and for emergency assistance. With funding cuts we probably will see a need to reduce services.

Losing one's job in many families with young infants adds much more stress. Programs such as Healthy Start play a critical role, pro actively, in facilitating positive parenting in stressful times. In addition, cuts to services for seniors and individuals with developmental disabilities place these populations at risk of institutionalization which is a cost that eventually becomes a taxpayer burden. Our "safety net" is getting very thin.

The safety net for all social services that affect our most vulnerable in the state is already stretched and will be in shreds if nothing is done. There will be many more people faced with health and safety issues that will cost the State more in the long run if we do not do what we can to maintain them in the community.

I'm sure I don't have to say it, "It's Raining". Please help restore programs to protect the most vulnerable in this State. I strongly urge your committee to pass SB 1679.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Please contact me at 535-0889 or swong@catholiccharitieshawaii.org if I could provide further information.



33
testimonies
(Catholic Charities)

1640 Lanakila Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96817

February 10, 2009

Transmittal Cover

Testifier's Name:	33 senior citizens
Position/Title:	Members of
Organization:	Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center
Committees:	Health, Human Services
Date of Hearing:	Tuesday, February 10, 2009
Time of Hearing:	1:15 p.m.
Measure number:	SB 1679
Number of Copies provided:	1 (original) of each testimony

Please contact Diane Terada at 595-5901 or diane.terada@catholiccharitieshawaii.org if there are any questions regarding this submittal of testimony. Thank you.

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

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair
Committee on Health

DATE: Tuesday, February 10, 2009 (1:15 p.m., Room 016)

RE: Support of SB 1679, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I am a member of Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and support the use of the "rainy day" fund to maintain services for our community.

In particular, I would like funds given to the Department of Health for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and other senior programs.

The rainy day has arrived! Please use these funds to support the critical needs of our community. Thank you.

Jean Sugihara

Name:

Jean Sugihara

Address:

1018 Peepoe Place

Honolulu, HI 96819

(Rep. Finnegan, Sen. Sakamoto)

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
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Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair
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Name: Caroline Tom

Address: 1515 Nuuanu Ave #82

Honolulu HI 96817
(Rep. Luke, Sen. Oakland)

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

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
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Name: J. Henry Machado Jr. M.D.

Address: 1806-B NAHO ST
HON HI 96817

(Rep. Ching, Sen. Oakland)

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
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Name: Nancy S. Ichikawa

Address: 1611 Miller St. 107

Hon. H. 96813
(Rep. Luke, Sen. Fukunaga)

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
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Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
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Name: Dorine Ichikawa

Address: 1611 Miller Street

96813
(Rep. Luke, Sen. Fukunaga)

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
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Name: Tonia E. Higa

Address: 55 S. Kuluhi St. #D1212

Honolulu HI 96813
(Rep. Rhoads, Sen. Galuteria)

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
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Name: NOBU T YOSHIOKA

Address: 55 S KUKUI ST D-1204

HONOLULU, HI 96813
(Rep. Rhoads, Sen. Galuteria)

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
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Name: Ester K. Kau

Address: 728 Kaniaw St #1105

Honolulu HI 96813
(Rep. Luke, Sen. Fukunaga)

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
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Name: Ellen Kahalehwe

Address: 444 - Lanikane St

Hon. Hi - 96813

Rep. Luke, Sen. Fukunaga

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Name: Ann Kinoshita

Address: 1043 - 20 Ilona Dr.

Honolulu, Hi. 96817
Rep. Ching, Sen. Oakland

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
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Name: Glady's N. Muramoto

Address: 2526 Henry St

Hon. H# 96817-1135
Rep. S. Luke, Sen. Oakland

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

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair
Committee on Health

DATE: Tuesday, February 10, 2009 (1:15 p.m., Room 016)

RE: Support of SB 1679, Relating to the Emergency and
Budget Reserve Fund

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Name: TAKEJIRO HIGA

Address: 1430 GREGORY ST.

HONOLULU, HI. 96817
Rep. Manahan, Sen. Kim

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

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Name: Ruby Higa

Address: 1430 Gregory St

Hon. Hi 96817

Rep. Manahan, Sen. Kim

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
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Name: Jane Yamashiro

Address: 95-206 Alenale Pl
Mililani HI 96789

Rep. Marilyn Lee Sen. Robert Bunda

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

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
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Name: Antonia R. ^{Ramos} Luna

POOPAA
Address: 99358 - POO POA ST.

Area Hawaii 96701
Rep. Finnegan, Sen. Sakamoto

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

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
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Name: Emalita Campos

Address: 626 Coral St. #503

Hon. Hi: 96813

Rep. Tom Brower, Sen. Brickwood Galuteria

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

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair
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Name: Adelaida del Banes

Address: 626 Coral St. #611 Hon. HI 96813

Rep. Brower, Sen. Galuteria

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
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Name: LEONARDO P. BULDA

Address: 914 KAHIKOLU PLACE 96818 HON, HI.

Rep. G. Wakai, Sen. Sakamoto

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

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
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Name: Gorgonia Bulda

Address: 914 Kahikolu Rd. Honolulu HI 96818

Rep. G. Wakai, Sen. Sakamoto

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
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Name: Fouhdes C. Sumawaga

Address: 1718 Kamehameha IV rd.

Honolulu Hawaii 96819

Rep. Mizuno, Sen Kim

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

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair
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Name: Lynette Lacuson

Address: 94-993 Kaula Place Apt. B313 Waipahu HI 96797

Rep. Aquino, Sen. Nishihara

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

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair
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Name: Felicidad L. De Jesus

Address: 91-801 KEHUE ST

FWA BEACH 96706
Hawaii

Rep. Pine, Sen. Espero

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

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair
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Name: Rosita Pasalo

Address: 1030 Kopke St. Hono, HI
96819

Rep. Manahan, Sen. Kim

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
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Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
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Name: JULIA D. Lopez

Address: 710 Kunawai Lane

Honolulu Hawaii 96817
Rep. Ching, Sen. Oakland

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

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Name: Mary C Acosta

Address: 1972 Lohilani St.

Honolulu, Hawaii 96819

Rep. Manahan, Sen. Kim

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
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Name: Adelaida G. Juanata
Ohu

Address: 1615 Ohu Rd. Hm HI-96819

TP: (808) 221-0669

Rep. Mizuno, Sen. Kim

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

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair .
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Name: ESTELITA M. SINGSOON.

Address: 147-72, PAUHAHI ST. APT. 406

HONO HAWAII, 96817.

Rep. Rhoads, Sen. Galuteria

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
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Name: PAULINE B. MATIONG

Address: 1015 N. SCHOOL ST. B306

HON. H. 95817
Rep. Ching, Sen. Oakland

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
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Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
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Name: Rosalina Aguiar

Address: 1119 W School St. 96817

Rep. Manahan, Sen. Oakland

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
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Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
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Name: Bill Madigan (I voted for Sen. Galuteria)

Address: 545, Queen, St. Apt 210

Honolulu HI
Rep. Brower, Sen. Galuteria

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
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Name: Juanita P. Camit

Address: 94-099 Waipahu ST

Honolulu HI
Rep. Karamatsu, Sen. Gabbard

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
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Name: TOKUE OUCHI

Address: 1080 ALA NAPAUANI ST. #204

HONOLULU, HI. 96818

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

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
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Name: Phoebe M Kimura

Address: 647 Kuanawai Lane, Apt 215

Honolulu, Hawaii 96817
(Rep. C. Ching, Sen. S.C. Oakland)

Testimony on SB 1679

Emergency Budget and Reserve Fund; Appropriation; Education; Human Services; Health Programs

February 10, 2009-Joint Senate Committees on Health and Human Services
Testimony presented by Howard S. Garval, President & CEO, Child & Family Service

Healthy Start, Hawaii's nationally recognized and evidence-based child abuse prevention program is first cut 29% in FY 09 and then eliminated from the Governor's proposed budget for FY 10, FY 11. 4,000 families at risk of child abuse will have no alternative program if Healthy Start is gone. 200 employees in nonprofit organizations all over the state will lose their jobs costing an estimated \$2.5 million in unemployment costs.

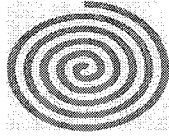
Adults struggling with mental illness had their services reduced from 3 hours a week to 3 hours a month in a major budget cut from the Adult Mental Health Division. Many employees were laid off by the organizations that received these funding cuts.

A 15% cut to services to the developmentally disabled has been announced for February 1, 2009.

How much further can we erode the services to these at risk populations before we are facing tragedies due to child abuse, suicides, or other serious problems?

Child & Family Service supports SB 1679 because it seeks to protect and/or restore services in key areas of education, human services, and health. This is an excellent use of Rainy Day Funds so that the most vulnerable in our community can continue to receive services that will help them stay safe and maintain or improve their overall functioning. The use of these funds will reduce the risk of more serious problems occurring due to programs closing or shrinking. Don't we owe it to our community to protect our keiki, ohana, the mentally ill and disabled, and our kupuna?

I urge you to support SB 1679 and keep enough services in place during these difficult economic times. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony today.



PHOCUSED

Protecting Hawaii's Ohana, Children, Under Served, Elderly and Disabled

February 9, 2009

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

Senator David Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair
Committee on Health

FROM: Alex Santiago, CEO
PHOCUSED

RE: SB1679 – Emergency Budget and Reserve Fund; Appropriation; Education; Human Services and Health Programs

PHOCUSED, Protecting Hawaii's Ohana, Children, Under Served, Elderly and Disabled, supports the passage of SB 1679. Over the past several months we have seen drastic cuts in government funding to the Health and Human Service Agencies helping the most vulnerable in our state. The negative effects of these cuts have been felt immediately by our most vulnerable residents. These cuts will have long lasting and expensive consequences as problems multiply and are magnified as preventive efforts are eliminated.

This bill would allow some of the Health and Human Services Programs presently being eliminated and or severely reduced to restore some of their efforts to help individuals and families in need. As the economy continues to worsen, we are very concerned that there will be an increased need for even more programs.

PHOCUSED looks forward to continued dialogue with this Legislative body as this measure moves forward. We are committed to making sure that these funds are used to restore funding to those programs responsible to helping the most vulnerable and needy in our society.



To: Senate Committee on Human Services
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Health
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice-Chair

Date: February 10, 2009 - Conference Room 016 – 1:15 pm

Re: **SB 1679, RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND**

Chairs Chun Oakland and Ige and Committee Members:

My name is Barbara Kim Stanton, State Director of AARP Hawaii. AARP is a membership organization of people 50 and older with nearly 160,000 members in Hawaii. We are committed to championing access to affordable, quality health care for all generations, providing the tools needed to save for retirement, and serving as a reliable information source on issues critical to Americans age 50+.

AARP strongly supports SB 1679. This bill would appropriate moneys from the emergency budget and reserve fund (commonly known as the “Rainy Day Fund”) to maintain levels deemed to be essential to public health, safety, welfare, and education.

The critical budget shortfall has created hardship for our most vulnerable residents at unprecedented levels and numbers.

- More than one fifth (21.2%) of Hawaii adults aged 60 and older have an income below 200% of the poverty threshold.
- Almost 13% of Hawaii’s children are being raised by grandparents—the highest percentage in the nation. These grandparents often forego attending to their own healthcare needs which often compromises their longevity and well-being.
- 64% of our residents stated that they were concerned whether they would be able to afford Rx drugs according to our 2008 AARP survey. One in ten reported delaying the filling of a RX or not filling it at all because of cost, splitting pills to make them stretch, or cutting back on food, fuel or electricity to afford the Rx.

We surmise that with the non-funding of the grants-in-aids in 2008 and the rapid erosion of our safety net services this past year, the number of keiki, elderly, and disabled residents falling between the cracks of society is even greater.

We are at a point where such basic services as meals-on-wheels, and bathing services twice a week to the disabled and the aged, are being curtailed or discontinued in its entirety. These kinds

of services clearly fall in the category of public health, safety and welfare, which is what the Rainy Day Fund was meant to address.

We strongly urge the legislators to protect our most vulnerable population by appropriating the necessary funding to meet our residents basic health and safety needs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 1679

Chairs Chun Oakland and Ige:

My name is Anthony Lenzer. I am a Professor Emeritus of Public Health and former Director of the Center on Aging at the University of Hawaii. I am testifying on behalf of Kokua Council, the oldest senior advocacy organization in Hawaii. Kokua Council strongly supports the purpose of this bill, which is to appropriate moneys from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain programs essential to education, public health, and public welfare. The bill clearly states the reasons why it is necessary to use this fund for these purposes.

In considering which programs to fund, we respectfully urge the Legislature to consider supporting both the Kupuna Care and the Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC) programs. Funding for these programs is critical to meet the needs of vulnerable elders in our state. At present, there are of very substantial unmet health and human services needs in this population. For example, according to the Elderly Affairs Division of the City and County of Honolulu, the greatest number of unmet needs are for information and assistance; outreach; congregate meals; adult day care; chore services; and health maintenance. These are services funded through the Kupuna Care program. The ADRC is also a critical service, because it provides a way for seniors to identify available services without having to go through the difficult and confusing task of trying to contact many individual agencies for assistance which may or may not be available to them.

Kokua Council believes that it is especially important to utilize these so-called rainy day funds because other State funds may not be available, given the current financial crisis. We are especially concerned because the federal stimulus funds which may be coming to Hawaii do not seem targeted to meet these types of needs. Therefore, we must be prepared to utilize what is available locally.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



Senate HTH/HMS Cmte
Tues, Feb 10, 2009
1:15 pm
room 016

National Association of Social Workers

Hawaii Chapter

February 8, 2009

TO: Senator David Ige, Chair
Members of the Senate Health Committee
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland
Members of the Senate Human Services Committee

FROM: Debbie Shimizu, LSW
National Association of Social Workers, Hawaii Chapter

RE: SB 1679 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund- **SUPPORT**

Chairs Ige, Chun Oakland and members of the Senate Health and Human Services Committees, I am Debbie Shimizu, Executive Director of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW), Hawaii Chapter. NASW is the largest professional organization for social workers in Hawaii. We are testifying in **SUPPORT of SB 1679**.

During the past decade, the state has been slowly handing over its responsibility of providing direct services to individuals and families to the private, nonprofit sector through purchase of service contracts. The Governor in her state of the state address was proud of the many achievements the state has made working with its' community partnerships. However, now when the state is in a fiscal crisis, the state is cutting funds to those contracts. This will ultimately result in dismantling many of the programs that the state was proud of.

The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP) is a policy organization that works on federal and state fiscal policy and public programs that affect low- and moderate-income families and individuals. In a report in February 2008, CBPP cautioned states from implementing across the board cuts to address its fiscal crisis. Instead CBPP fiscal advisors recommended that policy makers be more careful about cutting programs that affect low-income residents. They encouraged the use of rainy day funds to minimize the need to cut programs that are designed to assist state's residents the most during economic downturns.

Now is not the time to be cutting services that help vulnerable populations. I urge your favorable consideration of SB 1679.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

To: The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
The Honorable Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Health

From: Wanda Villareal, Director of Developmental Disabilities Services
Goodwill Industries of Hawaii, Inc.

Date: February 9, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Goodwill Industries of Hawaii, Inc. ("Goodwill") submits this testimony in support of Senate Bill 1679. Goodwill receives funding from the Department of Health-Developmental Disabilities Division ("DOH-DDD") via a DHS Medicaid Waiver Contract to operate Adult Day Health and Personal Assistance/Habilitation programs for individuals with significant developmental disabilities on Oahu and in East Hawaii (Hilo). Participants in Goodwill's programs and their families are Medicaid Waiver recipients who have limited socioeconomic resources. Waiver programs are essential for the public health, safety, welfare and education of individuals with developmental disabilities.

The projected budget shortfall for developmental disabilities services in the current fiscal year resulted in DOH-DDD mandating that individuals in Medicaid Waiver programs reduce services by 15% or greater, depending on the individual or families' utilization rates, effective February 1, 2009. Individuals and families were forced to immediately reduce critical services and necessary programs, such as those operated by Goodwill. In some cases, families are choosing between taking a shift at their jobs or caring for their dependent disabled family member creating more difficult economic circumstances for families.

In addition, since services have been reduced, Goodwill has also felt the effects resulting in our need to cut back our staff who provide direct service hours in our Waiver programs, and experienced employees have been laid off.

Goodwill is in strong support of Senate Bill 1679. The emergency and budget reserve fund should be used to maintain the previous level of Medicaid Waiver programs which are essential for the health, safety, welfare and education of individuals with developmental disabilities. The DOH-DDD's mandated budget reductions should be reversed as soon as possible.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Oahu

Administrative Office
2610 Kilihau Street
Honolulu, HI 96819-2020
Business: (808) 836-0313
Facsimile: (808) 833-4943
www.higoodwill.org

Beretania Office
1085 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96814-1603
Business: (808) 524-6942
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Hilo, HI 96720-4756
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Maui

Maui Office
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Kahului, HI 96732-2493
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Board of Directors

President: Wanda Villareal,
Goodwill Industries of Hawaii, Inc.

Vice-President: Melissa Gibo,
Catholic Charities Hawaii

Secretary: Sandee Yoro, SECOH

Treasurer: Jay Raymundo,
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Deann Canuteson, Full Life
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Anastasia Keller-Collins, Easter
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•Abilities Unlimited, dba
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•The Arc in Hawaii

•The Arc of Hilo

•The Arc of Kauai

•The Arc of Kona

•The Arc of Maui County

•The Institute for Family Enrichment

Hawaii Waiver Providers Association

February 9, 2009

Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair and Members of the Human Services
Committee and
Honorable Senator David Y. Ige, Chair and Members of the Health Committee
State Capitol, Hawaii State Senate
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: SB 1679 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Dear Chair Chun Oakland, Chair Ige and Members of the Committees:

The Hawaii Waiver Providers Association (HWPA) is a statewide association comprised of 19 service providers affording leadership to collaborate and shape the service system to meet the needs of people with developmental disabilities. Founded in 2001, HWPA's mission is to provide the necessary resources to develop, strengthen, and attain the highest standards of excellence for the developmental disabilities community.

The Hawaii Waiver Providers Association ("HWPA") submits this testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 1679.

The Department of Health-Developmental Disabilities Division's ("DOH-DDD") projected budget shortfall for developmental disabilities services in the current fiscal year resulted in immediate mandated budget reductions. Approximately 2,500 individuals statewide with significant disabilities and limited socioeconomic resources were impacted. Families and established human service providers who offer critical programs essential for the health, welfare and safety of individuals with developmental disabilities were also impacted.

The attached position statement details HWPA's significant concerns with the mandated budget reductions. Waiver programs are essential for the health, welfare and safety of individuals with developmental disabilities. The emergency and budget reserve fund should be used to maintain the level of programs for individuals with developmental disabilities, which will in turn reverse the DOH-DDD's mandated budget reductions as soon as possible.

We humbly ask for your support of Senate Bill 1679 which provides for the return to established funding levels for critical programs and services for our most vulnerable population.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Wanda Villareal
President
Hawaii Waiver Providers Association

Board of Directors

President: Wanda Villareal,
Goodwill Industries of Hawaii, Inc.

Vice-President: Melissa Gibo,
Catholic Charities Hawaii

Secretary: Sandee Yoro, SECOH

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•The Arc of Kauai

•The Arc of Kona

•The Arc of Maui County

•The Institute for Family Enrichment

Hawaii Waiver Providers Association (HWPAA)

Position Statement on Recent Budget Reductions

WHO WE ARE

HWPAA is a statewide association comprised of 19 service providers affording leadership to collaborate and shape the service system to meet the needs of people with developmental disabilities. Founded in 2001, HWPAA's mission is to provide the necessary resources to develop, strengthen, and attain the highest standards of excellence for the developmental disabilities community.

SYNOPSIS OF SITUATION

Approximately 2,500 individuals statewide with significant disabilities and limited socioeconomic resources were impacted by the recent mandated budget reductions set forth by the State of Hawaii Department of Health-Developmental Disabilities Division ("DOH-DDD"). The specific reductions have affected the Developmentally Disabled/Mental Retardation ("DD/MR") Medicaid Waiver recipients reducing services for people with disabilities of 15% or greater, depending on the individual or families' utilization rates, effective February 1, 2009.

CONCERNS AND POTENTIAL IMPACT

The primary goal of the DD/MR Waiver is to promote community inclusion in the least restrictive environment and to prevent institutionalization. The Hawaii Waiver Provider Association (HWPAA) is deeply concerned that the budget reductions will reverse the intended goal the Waiver was intended to promote and presents the following concerns and potential impact the service reductions will have.

Lack of Timely Notification

The entire stakeholder community of all participants, families and provider representatives did not receive proper notice and sufficient time to respond, plan and prepare for the reductions. The abbreviated timeline only allowed legal guardians a maximum of ten (10) days to analyze the letter and make the important decision about which services must be immediately reduced. Primary care providers are being forced to make decisions about their own work schedules in order to care for family members. This work schedule reduction will pose undue economic hardship on Medicaid dependent families with limited socioeconomic resources.

Insufficient Notice of the Appeal Process

Individuals and families were not adequately notified and informed of the right and process to appeal the DOH's decision to reduce Medicaid services by 15%.

Lack of Assessment to Determine Risk of Safety and Health Issues

There was an inadequate assessment of safety and health needs to determine the individual health and safety impact of reductions for each service recipient to include identification of alternate resources. This has left recipients without service for a minimum of 1-2 full days a week potentially totaling 15-20 hours per week. There is the potential for care providers to select an unqualified person to support the recipient, further comprising the individual's health and safety.

Individual Plans Being Revised to Meet State Needs

Individual service plans, which are required by the Federal government, are being revised to reflect what the State can afford and not what individuals actually need on a daily basis. Legal guardians and primary care providers unable to retain support may be faced with alternate residential placements for their family members in long-term care facilities, which this program is specifically designed to prevent.

Crucial Services Provided by Agencies Are Compromised

Agencies providing crucial services are reporting actual losses of up to 40%. Operationally agencies will have one week to analyze the impact after receiving final confirmation of each individual's revised service budgets. Provider agencies will need to immediately reduce staff and the availability of services. Service providers will not be able to sustain the loss of business resulting in the closure of provider agencies and ultimately a weaker community infrastructure for persons with severe disabilities.

RECOMMENDATION

In the unlikely event future reductions may be necessary, the DOH must ensure that all participants, families and provider representatives receive adequate notice with complete information and sufficient time to respond, plan and prepare for the reductions.

Immediately ensure that all individuals and families receive notification and complete information of their rights and of the process to appeal DOH's decision to reduce services.

Develop a comprehensive risk assessment and response plan to address all potential health and safety issues that will arise from mandated service reductions.

Develop and establish the Individual Budgeting process to include sound assessments procedures. Follow the methodical and fair process that was implemented for the age thirteen (13) and under recipients.

DOH-DDD must analyze the process in which these significant reductions were implemented and determine best practices and procedures. DOH-DDD should start fiscal year July 2009 with specific solutions in place.

Determine other potential budget reduction possibilities within the DOH to include internal administrative functions that do not directly compromise the health and safety of Hawaii's citizens with developmental disabilities.

Secure the necessary funds to meet the critical needs of vulnerable populations. Strongly advocate for an increase in the FMAP (Federal matching funds) to reestablish safety net services for individuals with developmental disabilities.

**TESTIMONY TO THE TWENTY-FIFTH STATE LEGISLATURE, 2009
SESSION**

To: Senate Committee on Human Services
Senate Committee on Health:

From: Hawaii Disability Rights Center
Re: SB 1679, Relating To The Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009 1:15 PM
Conference Room 016, State Capitol

Members of the Committee on Human Services:
Members of the Committee on Health:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony supporting Senate Bill 1679.

We are the agency mandated by federal law and designated by Executive Order to protect and advocate for the human, civil and legal rights of Hawaii's estimated 180,000 people with disabilities.

We strongly support this bill and are delighted to see the legislature acknowledge that despite our economic difficulties at the moment, we cannot as a society allow the neediest and weakest amongst us to fall through a safety net of basic, necessary services. In recent months, our office has been extensively involved with clients affected by recent budget cuts. We represent many individuals with mental illness who have been affected by cuts in the AMHD Budget. Currently, we are in the midst of representing many families who are affected by the cuts experienced at the Developmental Disabilities Division .

We are particularly concerned that in this area, the problems facing the DD Division have been somewhat self inflicted by the Administration. For the past several years, they have been budgeting year to year with a heightened dependence on emergency appropriations. Last year, the Division requested a larger base budget than they were permitted to seek from the legislature by the Governor. At that time, they were told that if they ran short of funds, they should simply seek another emergency appropriation. However, this year, the Governor

has instructed them they cannot seek that emergency appropriation. That is why they are in the fiscal predicament they face and must cut services.

This example illustrates the importance of securing a solid, accurately planned out, base budget. Recognizing that general funds will be stretched thin to support a variety of necessary and worthwhile efforts, we support this bill and the legislature's desire to use the emergency budget and reserve fund. We believe that the circumstances facing the state justify the use of these funds for these purposes,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Edward D. Sultan III
1039 Waiholo St.
Honolulu, HI 96821-1227
Fax Number: (808) 840-4506
Telephone Number: (808) 837-1206
Mobile Phone Number: (808) 341-1743

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

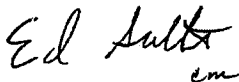
Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an
appropriation from the emergency and budget reserve fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the
levels of programs deemed essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically, I am
supporting the necessary appropriations to restore funding previously eliminated for the
***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships
in Community Living (PICL Programs).***

In providing some 400,000 hours each year in diverse and direct services to infants, children,
youth and young adults with disabilities and special needs, Easter Seals Hawaii is one of the few
organizations in Hawaii on the multiple front lines of this issue. Our perspective is unique. Thus
we know without a doubt that the families that rely on us day in and day out are some of the most
economically vulnerable in our state, with limited options in caring for their loved ones. If the
emergency appropriation is not approved immediately, thousands of families will risk losing vital,
valuable programs and services unavailable elsewhere.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be
reached at 837-1206 or ed@nahoku.com for any further questions.

Sincerely,



Ed Sultan
Chair, Easter Seals Hawaii Board of Directors

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the *Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs).*

Our son, Michael, is a 43 year old man with Cerebral Palsy and Mental Retardation. He still lives at home with us and receives personal assistant services with Easter Seals Hawaii. Michael's needs have increased over the years; he now needs physical assistance with bathing, grooming, toileting and other hygiene tasks. He is not able to cook for himself, do his laundry or manage his money. He cannot independently access public transportation. He cannot manage his medical care and must have someone make his appointments and then attend the appointment with him. It is even hard for Michael to communicate when he is sick or in pain, so a vigilant caregiver must observe his behavior and problem solve when changes are observed. In the event of an emergency or natural disaster, he has no self-preservation skills and must be supervised 24/7. He is partially paralyzed on the right side and recently started walking with a cane due to a frequent high rate of falls due to his physical deterioration. Michael's self help skills are not going to improve; over the rest of his lifetime, we can only expect his skills to continue to decline.

My husband and I are also aging and experiencing our own health issues. We are finding it increasingly difficult to provide care for Michael. With Easter Seals Hawaii's help, however, we have been receiving 61 hours of help every week. Michael's care givers assist him with bathing and hygiene tasks each day. His caregivers help him with meals, physical therapy and provide him with opportunities to socialize with his peers and access the community (shopping, going to the movies, going to the park, etc.) These care givers accompany Michael to his doctor and

dentist appointments. These services have allowed Michael to continue to live at home with us, rather than place him in a group home or a foster home. These services also save the State of Hawaii a significant amount of money for Michael's care. Certainly, if he was in a group home, the cost to The State would be much higher than it is now.

Recent budget cuts have cut Michael's service hours down to 42.50 hours per week. This is putting tremendous pressure on our family. My husband and I will have less time to care for ourselves and maintain our own health. The increased physical stress of caring for Michael will surely have a negative effect on our physical health. Michael is frequently moody and has behavioral outbursts related to his disability. This is uncomfortable for many people and limits our ability to maintain a daily schedule and complete daily tasks. Our days are ruled by Michael's "current mood" and interrupts tasks, errands, socializing and family contact on a daily basis. In short, I expect that our family will soon be in crisis and The State of Hawaii will be faced with finding Michael a group living placement AND picking up the bill for those services.

I am also inclined to seek out legal help to advocate for the rights of my son. He should be able to live at home and be adequately supported with community services rather than move into a group home. It simply makes no sense.

I strongly urge you to reconsider recent budget cut backs and understand the devastating effects that this will have on our disabled citizens and their families.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-572-8060, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Lolita Jarnesky

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1679***. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a parent of a daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that her needs are being met and that she is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my daughter is able participate in meaningful activities that allow her to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my daughter would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-559-0886, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Lucila and Marcus Badillo

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
 State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
 Twenty-Fifth Legislaturc
 State Capitol
 415 S. Beretania Street
 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

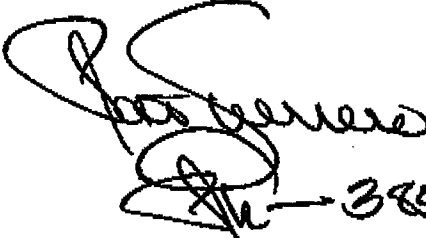
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My client is partially paralyzed and needs services daily, to give him the optimum care for his welfare — Let's give our clients all that they deserve & need —

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 249-2065, for any further questions.

Sincerely,


 385-6831

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing),
Conference Room 016

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I am a parent of a daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that her needs are being met and that she is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my daughter is able participate in meaningful activities that allow him/her to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my daughter would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern.

Anjelica is a 26 year old with autism and for whatever reasons, adults with autism require more care. Anjelica requires 2 to 1 services and behavioral supports and with the budget cuts we were required to cut her budget 120 hrs which significantly compromises her care. It contributes to stress to the remaining staff who are working with her and also inhibits the support for her mobility to move towards greater independence.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at ~~249-0254~~ for any further questions.

Malama ke pono,

Mahalo Nui Loa for your support.

Sincerely,

Christina Chang, Cordell Chang, Support Staff for Anjelica

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
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Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and
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I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that his needs are being met and that he is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my son is able participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen. My son is actively involved in the community, volunteering at the Community College and this would not be available to him with out his PAB worker picking him up. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-283-2933, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Donna Paul

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

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I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. As a result of cutting the hours in the budget for his personal assistance and respite, I am not able to focus on advocacy for my son. My husband and I have had to reduce our work hours, which reduces the quality of life we are able to provide for our son. My son is not able to be left alone, so we must pick up all of the hours the state has cut.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-565-8185, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Angela Raboin

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

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I am a parent of a daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services, and due to our geographical disadvantage of living in Hana, I am able to work with my Daughter as her CBP to assure her needs are being met and that she is safe and we are able to live where we have always lived and receive services. My daughter is able participate in meaningful activities that allow her to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my daughter would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 248-7425, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Franka Lono

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

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We are the parents of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to help care for our child. With the support of these services my son is able to receive care that I am no longer able to provide do to health problems. We are elderly parents, and the services our son receives currently will allow him a better transition when we pass on. My son is able participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son would have to be home with us where we can no longer provide adequate care and disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808) 879-4787 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
John and Ann Maher

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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and Health:

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I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that his needs are being met and that he is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my son is able participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808)344-8661, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Juanita Rodrigues

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

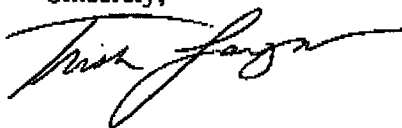
Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1679**. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the *Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL) Programs*.

The participant that I take care of, Corey Ueki, would benefit by continuing her current schedule at Easter Seeds. She grows and learns by interacting in the community. This program is highly beneficial to her. Please keep this program as she is accustomed to.
Thank you.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 249-2065, for any further questions.

Sincerely,



Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

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Two weeks into
Easter sevens for the

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679.** I can be reached at 249-2065, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

DO NOT BE INDEED WITH
THE COMMITTEE
COREY CRKI

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

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I am a caregiver for our loved one with DD. Because of the cuts he doesn't have anything to do anymore. He is emotionally hurt because he isn't out in the community being active with his peers. He has been depressed and only watching TV in afternoon. I have been effected because I've had to cut my hours at work so someone is home.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 357-7643 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Kimo Kenyan

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

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We would like to have services back. The services increases my daughter's program of Daily Living Skills. She is able to learn how to buy things on her own, give back to the land by recycling and other living skills her program provides for her.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 244-5458 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Joan Bellard

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

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Right now my husband and I both work and our children are in school. I was told that my brother's services would be cut one day. This was very stressful trying to figure out which day when we already have the minimum we can get by on. I don't know what we would do on that day as we do not have enough funds to pay for a caregiver ourselves.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at ~~872-5651~~ for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Nida Faylogna

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

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These services are beneficial for our son. He was depressed the whole day he didn't go to Saturday ADH. He really enjoys the gathering with his friends. The services provide his only contact to his peers. For us as caregivers and parents, the services provide a huge sense of security. Right now he is home alone during the day because we need to work. He needs a safe place to be in the day. If he falls at home we can't be there to help him. The service provides his safety.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 214-5843 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

John Miyamoto, Sr.

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
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Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
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Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1679***. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the *Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL) Programs*.

We as parents for our son with disabilities feel the services for our son are very much needed. We both work and need the extra support. Without these services we will not be able to give our son the things he needs. He benefits from these services by being active in the community and creating lasting friendships.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 244-1613 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Stanley and Joyce Hashimoto

Dahiel Vasquez Jr

qs Lceun tel

hhh Lo h mma Lekehiehl hld

249-2065

- There is a pit that used to come on Saturdays. I feel he benefits from our Saturday Program. He exercises, and makes new friends in the community. He also establishes friendships at Saturday Program.

Don Nels

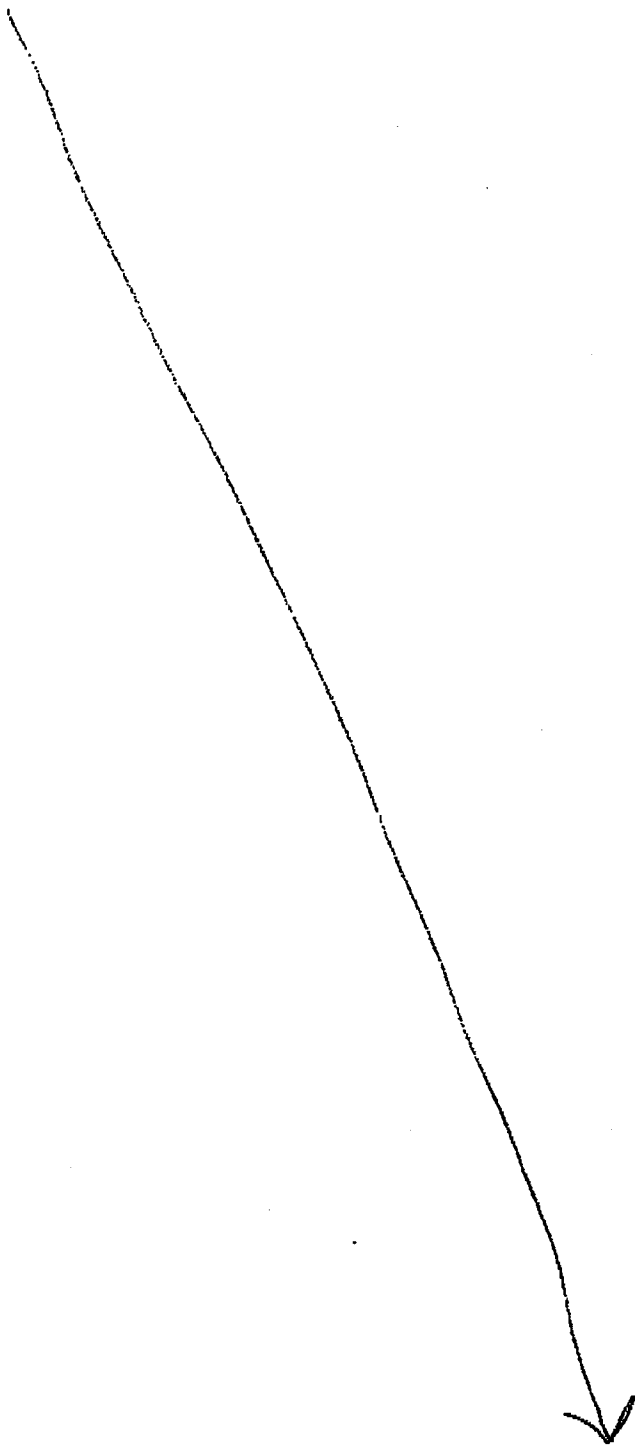
249-2065

2-9-09 My name is Keala I would like to
have my hours back with Natasha
we have fun together.

Keala

249-2065

~~Hon!~~ I would like my hours back, because I don't like to go home on the bus. Staying home is boring. I ~~missed~~ missed ^{going} ~~on~~ Maui Bus with my PA. I missed going to "Macdonald's" and shopping!



Gwen
2492065

Kyle ~~tw~~

I would like my hours back so I can spend time with my P.A. We like to go out together. We take the bus (he taught me how to). We also go to Borders books and other places that I enjoy in the community.

He's teaching me how to cook & play sports like baseball.

We get together on Mondays with my friends at the Alc House.

I would like more days to meet up with my friends & my PA.

Kyle

249-2065

I do not want my hours cut because I
 enjoy my Saturdays & Saturdays are alot more
 fun. I like hanging out w/ my friends in
 a small group. We want to travel the world.

KINGSTON PAPER
 249-2065

hqp Alice East
ONTE

Written by Alice Nita
249-2065

Date: ~~Feb~~ 21/9/09

Hi my name is Roxanne Higa

I have been learning how to read
better and exercising but my hours
was taken away please, give me back,
my hours,

Thank you for giving me back my hours.

Roxanne Higa
249-2065

to whom it may concern
 like the way my hours changed it possible to have
 3 days off to be at home with my pets I would
 really appreciate it so much. I really enjoy your
 idea it is a great non profit organization to be with
 made some great friends

Thanks
 Susan Kempf
 249-2065

02-09-09
Easter Seals - Maui
Wailuku, HI

To Whom It may Concern:

I would like to have my hours of service back. I like to come to program and be with my friends. I now have to stay home on Saturday all day. I also have to go home 4 days a week before I want to. Please try to get my hours back for me.

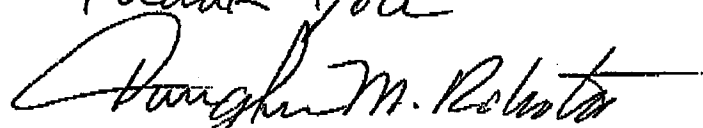
Thank you,
x HOWARD R
Howard R.

808-249-2065

02-09-09
Easter Seals - Maui
Wailuku, HI

To Whom It May Concern,

Please make every effort to reinstate the funds that are needed to support our participants. The major reduction in their service hours has caused my participant to make major changes in his life. He needs the care and attention we provide.

Thank you

Douglas M. Roberts, CBP
249-2065



EASTER SEALS HAWAII
EWA ADULT DAY HEALTH (ADH) PROGRAM
91-1251 Renton Road
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
PH: 681-0747 FAX: 681-0813

FAX COVER SHEET

TO: Joint Committees on Human Services & Health
COMPANY: Senate Sergeant-At-Arms Office
FAX #: 586-6659
FROM: Sonya Keli for Easter Seals Hawaii participants
DATE: February 9, 2009

Total number of pages, INCLUDING this cover sheet: 5

SUBJECT: Support for SB 1679, 2/10/09, @ 1:15pm

COMMENTS:

Please call 681-0747 if there
are any questions.

Sincerely,
Sonya J. Keli

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Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1679***. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the *Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs)*.

I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that his needs are being met and that he is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my son is able participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 871-5488, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Valeros

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzannne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings -- Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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I am a sister, and legal guardian, of a woman with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my sister. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that her needs are being met and that she is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my sister is able participate in meaningful activities that allow her to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, sister would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 284-1262³ for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Bhagyedeeep "Joy" Singh

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Heretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that his needs are being met and that he is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my son is able participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 870-4275₃ for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Maxwell Costa

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that his needs are being met and that he is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my son is able participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 870-4281³ for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Patti Costa

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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I am a brother of a young man with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my bother. With the support of these services I know that his needs are being met and that he is safe. Not only do I know that he is safe, my brother is able participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my brother would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 879-2404, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Jachin Costa

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that his needs are being met and that he is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my son is able participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 968-6829, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Bobbi Leone

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that his needs are being met and that he/she is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my son is able to participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern.

Additionally, my son is confined to a wheel chair and requires 2 to 1 services which he cannot get due to lack of funds.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 205-1135 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Walinda "Ona" Kim

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that his needs are being met and that he is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my son is able participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be a major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 572-6284, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Tony Leone

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings -- Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1679***. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs)***.

I am the sister, and legal guardian, of a man with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my brother. My brother lives in care home. With the support of these services, the caregiver and I know he is safe and able participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my brother would be disengaged from the community, and possibly be home alone which would be major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 572-2305, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Glenda Frederick

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

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and Health:

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I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that his needs are being met and that he is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my son is able participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, I would not be able to go to work and my son would be disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 264-5254; for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Barbara Joaquin

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

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I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that his needs are being met and that he is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my son is able participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 871-5488, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Lani Whitby

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a person with a disability that has been able to access support because I receive services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to participate in meaningful activities that allow me to have a life just like every other person. Without services supported by the DD/MR Waiver I would not get to be around friends. My services help me with daily life skills and I get to make friends. Without services, my health and safety would be at risk.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Norine Ng
Norine Ng

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

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and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a person with a disability that has been able to access support because I receive services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to participate in meaningful activities that allow me to have a life just like every other person. My services help me with daily life skills and I get to make friends. I would miss not getting to go on excursions and see new things. Without services, my health and safety would be at risk.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,


Edward Kcpa-Smith

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

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I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1679***. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a person with a disability that has been able to access support because I receive services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to participate in meaningful activities that allow me to have a life just like every other person. I am happy coming to program. I like learning how to write and draw at program. I also get to make choices and purchase products at stores. I am happy coming to a program. Without services, my health and safety would be at risk.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

SEAN REILLY
Sean Reilly

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a person with a disability that has been able to access support because I receive services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to participate in meaningful activities that allow me to have a life just like every other person. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, I would have to sit home and do nothing, not get out into the community, and put my health and safety in question. I am happy coming to Easter Seals Hawai'i program.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,



Ted Wong

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Boretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1679***. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the *Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs)*.

I am a person with a disability that has been able to access support because I receive services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to participate in meaningful activities that allow me to have a life just like every other person. I like to get to make friends and go places. Without these supports, there will be madness for me if I don't go to program. My health and safety would be at risk.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Leigh Kimura



Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

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I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1679***. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs)***.

I am a person with a disability that has been able to access support because I receive services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to participate in meaningful activities that allow me to have a life just like every other person. I don't want my services to be cut. I want to keep coming to Easter Seals Hawai'i. I am learning how to use money because I come to program. Without services, my health and safety would be at risk.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,


Kathleen Tabata

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

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I am a person with a disability that has been able to access support because I receive services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to participate in meaningful activities that allow me to have a life just like every other person. I like to get to make friends and be with them. At program, I get to volunteer with Meals on Wheels. I also get to make choices and go out with workers. Without services, my health and safety would be at risk.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Noah Lorenzo

Noah Lorenzo

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the *Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.*

I am a person with a disability that has been able to access support because I receive services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to participate in meaningful activities that allow me to have a life just like every other person. I like coming to Easter Seals Hawai'i. I learn money, games, go out, holo holo, check my calendar, check folders, and do my own scheduling. I am happy over here. Without services, my health and safety would be at risk.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,


Ada McFeely

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

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I am a person with a disability that has been able to access support because I receive services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to participate in meaningful activities that allow me to have a life just like every other person. Easter Seals Hawaii'i is good. You can learn. I learn the computer. I learn job skills. I paint the "No dumping in the drain" warnings on the sidewalk. I do hula at different places, e.g. Leeward Nursing Home. My life has meaning and without services my health and safety would be at risk.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

DAVID KEAWE

David Keawe

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings - Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

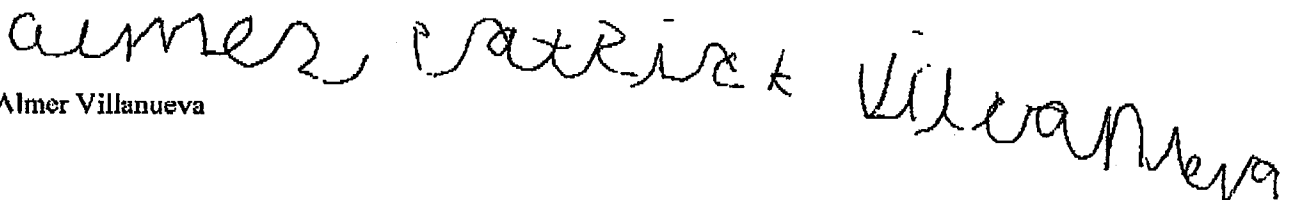
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I am a person with a disability that has been able to access support because I receive services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to participate in meaningful activities that allow me to have a life just like every other person. With services, I get to participate with Special Olympics, have fun, and make friends. I now have friends. Going to program is good. Everything is good when I get to see staff and my friends. Without services, my health and safety would be at risk.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,


Almer Villanueva

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

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and Health:

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appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels
of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am
supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD
Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL
Programs.***

I am a person with a disability that has been able to access support because I receive services
offered in the MR/DD Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to participate in
meaningful activities that allow me to have a life just like every other person. I don't like to stay
home on the weekends. I get bored. I need a worker because my mom works on the weekends.
With my worker, I get support with fixing my bed, picking out clothes, and cooking. My worker
helps me with my lunch and takes me to my friends house. I need a worker. Please don't take
them from me. Without services, my health and safety would be at risk.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.
Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be
reached at (808)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,


Johnelle Santos

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
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I am a person with a disability that has been able to access support because I receive services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to participate in meaningful activities that allow me to have a life just like every other person. I miss going out with my worker on Sundays. I also miss going to Special Olympics swim practice Mondays. I need all of the practice I can get for the area and state games. I also miss coming to Easter Seals Hawai'i on Fridays. Without services, my health and safety is more at risk and my choices and opportunities are limited.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,


Nicole Kelly

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

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I am a person with a disability that has been able to access support because I receive services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to participate in meaningful activities that allow me to have a life just like every other person. I like going to program. I like learning hula and everything. I like learning and having choices. Without services, my health and safety would be at risk.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Robin Wagner

Robin Wagner

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
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of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am
supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD
Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL
Programs.***

***My name is Nanimahealani Saffery and I am a Community Based Provider/Direct Service
Worker for an individual with a developmental disability receiving support from the MR/DD
Waiver. I feel that the service and support I provide is really good in helping my participant
get out in to the community and work on important life skills goals. Without these services, my
participant would not be a participating member of the community and she would not be able
to access the community as much as her mother and sister are very busy.***

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.
Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be
reached at 938-9200 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Nanimahealani Saffery

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a parent of a daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that her needs are being met and that she is safe. Not only am I able to work, but my daughter is able to participate in the meaningful activities that allow her to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my daughter would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community, which would be a major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 554-3344, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Anastasia Manthos

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
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I have had the great opportunity to work with the mentally challenged and disabled who didn't ask to be born or otherwise have such challenges. I feel as a community we should do everything in our power to help. The parents of these children need our support and need to know that as a community we support their efforts in keeping their child safe and engaged in life skills. Without these programs we would hear a lot of horror stories about this community of people being locked up in a room at home. I feel the parents will have no other choice even when they know it's wrong, but what other choice if the state keeps cutting the budget on their services?

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 234-8977, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Doreen Borges

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
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of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am
supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD
Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL
Programs.***

***My son, Brandon Nakata, has been diagnosed with Autism and mental retardation. We have
been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to
care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that his
needs are being met and that he is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my son is able to
participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen.
Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son would have to be home alone,
disengaged from the community, which would be a major health and safety concern.***

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.
Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be
reached at (808) 542-3506 for any further questions.

Sincerely,


Linda F. K. Nakata

Linda Nakata - 95-180 Wainaku Place - Mililani, HI 96789

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
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I am a parent of a daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that her needs are being met and that she is safe. Not only am I able to work, but my daughter is able to participate in the meaningful activities that allow her to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my daughter would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community, which would be a major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 386-1717, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Pericles Manthos

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
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I am a guardian for my brother who has downs syndrome. The services offered in the MR/DD waiver has allowed me to work full time so I'm able to make a living for my brother and me. The MR/DD Waiver service and Easter Seals Hawai'i staff are extremely important to the quality of my brother's life and therefore mine, in that the service has afforded my brother a chance to have an ordinary life where he interacts with great people and learns basic living skills at the same time. My brother would not otherwise be able to participate in the Easter Seals ADH program. In addition, our lives would be much more challenging if we were unable to access the MR/DD waiver service. My brother cannot read, or communicate verbally other than to say a few choice words. To continue to have access to MR/DD Waiver service would ensure my brother continues to learn the necessary life skills he absolutely needs.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 840-0528 (home) or 783-6000 (cell) for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Roy Quintanilla

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
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State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
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I am a parent of a/daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that her needs are being met and that she is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my /daughter is able participate in meaningful activities that allow her to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my daughter would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 221-4755 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Carrie Murata

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
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I am the mother of a son who was injured in an automobile accident, which rendered him disabled, requiring 24-hour care. We have been recipients of services offered in the MR/DD Waiver since 2003. The 15% decrease in services, which may seem very little actually takes a big bite out of his care. Without the support of these services many of his needs will not be met. It has taken us a long time to work with the program in order to receive what little we have, and now, we will be desperately alone. These Programs have given my son the ability to have a meaningful life. He is able to participate in activities that allow him to have a life almost like every other citizen. It has given me the much needed rest and respite from His 24-hour care, as I am his only provider. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my Son would not be able to have personal care, he would be alone with me and not be able to live in the community, as he should. His health, safety and future are of my greatest concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 697-8855 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Rozalyn K. Teixeira

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
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We are submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an
emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain
the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare.
Specifically we are supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of
Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community
Living (PICL Programs).***

***We are parents of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the
services offered by Easter Seals Hawaii. This Adult Day Health Program is one of many
MR/DD Waiver programs offered in the state. One of the primary purposes of these waiver
programs was to provide a viable alternative to institutionalization of individuals with
developmental disabilities. We cannot express more emphatically the profound difference this
alternative has made in my son's life as well as in the lives of thousands of disabled people in
Hawaii who attend these programs. With the support of these services, my son is able to
participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen.
Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son would be home and
disengaged from the community. There are many other participants who attend these programs
whose parents work and truly depend on the stimulative and supervisory role the waiver
programs offer. Without them, these participants could remain in situations that would be a
major health and safety concern to their parents and guardians.***

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.
Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. We can be
reached at 625-3544, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Richard and Carol Sears

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
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I have a son with a disability. He receives services through the MR/DD Waiver. It is important for my son to have social stimulation otherwise he becomes very introverted. He needs to be in an environment that provides continuous learning opportunities otherwise he will not remember even his own address or telephone number. My son cannot be left alone at home for safety reasons. He needs someone to be with him at all times. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, I don't know who would take care of my son; it would be a major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at dbacon69@msn.com for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Dawn Bacon

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
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I am a parent of daughter with a disability that has been just begun to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. For us this is just the beginning of the support that my daughter will need in order to be a contributing adult in her community. She has a long life ahead of her and with the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that her needs are being met and that she is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my daughter is able to participate in meaningful activities that allow her to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my daughter would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community, which would be a major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at e_schank@hawaiiopera.org, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Eric Schank

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
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I am a parent of a daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that her needs are being met and that she is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my daughter is able to participate in meaningful activities that allow her to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my daughter would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community, which would be a major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at Northropt@yahoo.com or 294-2023 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Nortrop Okuda

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
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415 S. Beretania Street
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I have a daughter with multiple disabilities. She has been able to access support through the MR/DD Waiver and through the PICL program. With the support of these programs, my daughter, who is deaf, is able to attend Kapiolani Community College and take American Sign Language classes these classes have benefitted her and helped her to communicate with her peers. In addition she has taken art classes which she hopes to make into her career. The various programs give her the opportunity to gain social skills in a setting which is positive and a fun learning environment. Not only am I able to go to work, but my daughter is able to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver and the PICL program, my son/daughter would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community, which would be a major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 8089-222-0795, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Valery O'Brien

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
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I am a parent of a daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. These services have helped my daughter in learning to socialize and could help her to work toward employment in the future. I feel that with this support she would be able to become more independent and give back to the community. I really want my daughter to become more independent but she has not yet been able to learn how to cross the street safely. With the services that she has gotten in the past under the DD Waiver she has improve her awareness of safety issues in the community. Routine and repetition are very important to her learning. The more she is out in the community and in those types of environments the more successful she will be in achieving her goals of safety and independence.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 351-5935, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Rachel Tanaka

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
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I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that his needs are being met and that he is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my son is able to participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community, or attend a program that isn't adequate to provide the support or services to meet his needs, which in both situations would be a major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808) 398-5911, for any further questions.

Sincerely,



Debbie Tran

Tuesday, February 09, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
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I care for my nephew who has a developmental disability. As a result of the recent budget reduction, he is no longer able to attend his day program Monday through Friday; he has to stay home on Fridays now. Also, it has resulted a cut in my own hours which has affected our household's situation dramatically.

When my nephew attends the day program, he is able to access his community and his challenging behaviors are supported. Also, since I am also caring for my husband who's health has recently declined, I am overwhelmed at home. I try to do my best to support my nephew and my husband but it is often taxing on my own health as well as I do not often get a break.

The Adult Day Habilitation program that my nephew attends is crucial in obtaining behavioral supports that he needs, participating in meaningful activities and overall, they are able to support Martin in ways that I am not capable of at home.

Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my nephew would miss out on meaningful opportunities for him to manage his challenging behaviors and participate in activities that are crucial for him having a meaningful life. Since I do not drive, I am unable to assist my nephew with going out into the community very often.

Without these services, I would lose my paycheck that I receive assisting my nephew with his provider agency and also I will miss out on the support that they provide to me and my family to assist Martin. Since I have to care for both my nephew and my husband, I am unable to work any other job and the funding that this service brings into my household is vital for survival.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 734-0925, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Blossom Asunson

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
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I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

Our son is 16 years old and diagnosed with Agenesis of corpus callosum, epilepsy, pervasive developmental delay, hypothyroidism, Costello syndrome, Septo Optic Dysplasia, Central Apnea and Obstructive Hypopnea, Gastrosophageal Reflux, Pectus Excavatum, hearing loss in left ear, Severe Mental Retardation. If our in-home services are cut, we will have to consider institutionalization. Please do not put us in the position placing our son outside of our home. With the help we currently receive, we are able to keep him at home with us, where he is loved and well cared for.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-243-9672, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Bissen, II

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services, my son has been able to receive personal care and have access to the community. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son/daughter would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community, which would be a major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at **291-5771** for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Petronilla Eschelbach

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs)***.

At the moment, many individuals with disabilities and their families are subjected to risk to their well-being and great inconvenience. Believing a society worthy of the name should come to the aid of these for their members, I support what is written herein.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-344-0165, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Ken DeWalt

Monday, February 9, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am an individual with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to access my community and work on developing my life skills. I am also able participate in meaningful activities that allow me to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, I would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern as both my mother and sister work and are busy. Receiving services makes me happy. I do not like staying at home.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be contacted at 16-785 Kikania, Kea'au, HI 96749 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Anna-Lisa Pabro

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency
appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels
of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am
supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD
Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL
Programs.***

***Hi I am a participant at Easter Seals Hawaii. I want my services back, because I miss going
out into the community in the afternoons with my PA. I thought it was my fault that my time
was cut, but now I don't think that. I would like to have my hours back.***

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.
Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be
reached at 808-959-8099 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Denise Demotta
2469 B
Kilauea Ave
Hilo, Hi 96720

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. There have been cuts made already and my son has been affected by this because due to these cuts he no longer has one on one services. The lack of one on one service greatly affects my son because he is not able to participate in community events and which impacts his learning. I am in favor of any funding that can help restore these services.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 221-2971, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Lauree Kaleikau-Gill

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

Hi I am a participant at Easter Seals Hawaii. I want my services back, because I miss going out into the community in the afternoons with my PA. I thought it was my fault that my time was cut, but now I don't think that. I would like to have my hours back.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-959-8099 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Denise Demotta
2469 B
Kilauea Ave
Hilo, Hi 96720

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a single parent of an adult daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the DD/MR Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to know that her needs are being met, she is safe, and happy. My daughter has benefited significantly from these services. Due to support from these services she has become a contributor to her community, a member of her local hula halau, and is also able to participate in meaningful activities that allow her to live a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the DD/MR Waiver, my daughter would have to be at home, disengaged from the community, which would not only be upsetting to her, but would also be a major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (928) 757-7491, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Leona Di Mauro-Pender

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a parent of a son with severe disabilities due to a viral encephalitis at the age of 2 years old. My son, Travis, has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I was able to go to work and attend to daily demands and activities,, knowing that his needs and activities created for his specific needs, are being met and that he is being provided a safe and stimulating environment.. My son was able to participate in meaningful activities, , that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son would have to be home...with limited experiences.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-990-3644 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Linde Masuhara, mother of Travis Masuhara, age 28
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
cell- 808-990-3644

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. Without these services he could not be involved in the community. If he did not have these services he would be at home and not able to attend community events. I feel that it is really important for the DD community to receive services.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 221-2971, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Sherry Harada

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

Aloha, I am sending you this because I feel that these people needs all the hours and help they have been getting. It is unfair to them and their families. They need to go out in to the community and do things that others get to do. They need to socialize with othesr in the community and get out. Please give them back their rights and freedom.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-989-1938 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Maelisa Evangelista
P.O Box 1002
Keaau Hi 96749

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

Aloha,

My name is Colleen Daly. I am a Home and Community Based Case Coordinator for Easter Seals Hawaii working in at the Hilo Support Services Program. Our program serves children and adults with development disabilities through home and community based services such as personal assistance, chore assistance, and habilitated employment through the MR/DD waiver. Recently our prt's and their families were cut by a 15% budget reduction to their services. Some of our participants and families based on the way the cut was made ended up losing much more hours than expected, and are now faced with the hardship of losing their jobs, hours, medical, and for the participants the activities and care they were previously receiving. This saddens me to see, as the people we serve deserve and have the right to be provided with the care and activities that this waiver was made to provide.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-961-3716 for any further questions.
Sincerely,

Colleen Daly
HCBS Case Coordinator
1266 Kamehameha Avenue, #12
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Phone: 808.961.3716
Email: cdaly@eastersealshawaii.org

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

My husband, I and entire family are submitting this testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB
1679 on behalf of our son who is disabled. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the
emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined
to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting
appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division
DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

***I am parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the
services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these
services, my husband and I are able to go to work, as well as provide services to our son. My
other son and his girlfriend also provide services through the MR/DD Waiver to our son which
allow my husband and I to be able to go to work knowing that his needs are being met and that
he is safe. My husband and I's join income is what holds our home together, if my son were
not able to be provided with these services, I would have to give up my job, and our economic
hardship would become more stressed. Through the MR/DD Waiver program my son is able
participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen.
Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son would have to be home alone,
which is not possible due to the extent of his disability, as well as disengaged from the
community which would be major health and safety concern.***

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.
Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be
reached at 808-982-7843, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Karen, & Ricky SR. Torres and entire Family.
16-634 Old Volcano Rd.
Kea'au HI 96749
982-7843 (home)

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the *Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs).* *I am a parent of a daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services my daughter has been able to participate in meaningful activities that allow her to experience life much like every other citizen. Through these activities, she has been able to progress socially and increase her awareness of the community. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my daughter would have to be home, disengaged from the community, and lose much of the progress that she has made over the years.*

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 383-6214, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Neal S. Takase

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am writing you as a service provider for waiver services. I have personally witnessed the need and importance services are to our disabled community and families. These services provide our families and participant opportunities to be a part of their community. Waiver services provide healthy and safe homes for needed chores services. Services provide our participants' the opportunity to apply for volunteer and employment opportunities, participate in Special Olympic functions and complete many task that we take for granted daily. I ask you to please support SB 1679.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-756-7740 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Judy Marsh

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

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Aloha, I am sending you this because I feel that these people needs all the hours and help they have been getting. It is unfair to them and their families. They need to go out in to the community and do things that others get to do. They need to socialize with othesr in the community and get out. Please give them back their rights and freedom.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-989-1938 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Maelisa Evangelista
P.O Box 1002
Keaau Hi 96749

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that his needs are being met and that he is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my son is able to participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community, which would be a major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 389-5445, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Frank Sakamoto

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

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and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a single working parent of a young child with disabilities. Services help provide my child with opportunities to engage with other children and access his community. As a single parent my resources are very limited. Both of my parents are elderly and unable to watch my child. Having services allow me to continue to work and provide an income for my son and I. Without these services, I will not be able to work, because, I will have to stay home to take care of my child.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-895-3116/808-965-9076, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Cristina Acupan

Lee Wilson
1536 Mele Manu Street
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

Monday, February 9, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and The Honorable David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige, and Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in **strong support of SB 1679**. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs).

As an Easter Seals Board Member I have seen first-hand the need for these services in our communities. If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the State will put at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **strong support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-937-1127 for any questions.

Sincerely,



Lee Wilson

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

Aloha,

My name is Colleen Daly. I am a Home and Community Based Case Coordinator for Easter Seals Hawaii working in at the Hilo Support Services Program. Our program serves children and adults with development disabilities through home and community based services such as personal assistance, chore assistance, and habilitated employment through the MR/DD waiver. Recently our prt's and their families were cut by a 15% budget reduction to their services. Some of our participants and families based on the way the cut was made ended up losing much more hours than expected, and are now faced with the hardship of losing their jobs, hours, medical, and for the participants the activities and care they were previously receiving. This saddens me to see, as the people we serve deserve and have the right to be provided with the care and activities that this waiver was made to provide.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-961-3716 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Colleen Daly

HCBS Case Coordinator
1266 Kamehameha Avenue, #12
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Phone: 808.961.3716
Email: cdaly@eastersealshawaii.org

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings -- Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
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Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
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and Health:

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I am a grandparent who has adopted my grandson with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. I am at the age where I cannot provide all of the supports that he needs and I cannot be as active with him as a young parent could be. The community based provide helps me to take my grandson to events and essential activities in his community. I want the hours to be restored for my grandson because he has very few hours of supports and when these hours are cut it makes a huge impact on his life. Without services my grandson would not be able to participate in the Special Olympics and would not be able to be actively involved in his community living life like everyone else. Without services my grandson would not have help and support to learn independent living skills. I believe that part of the money should go to the department of health to help provide services for the DD/MR population.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 625-9183, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Linda Cabaal

Monday, February 9, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am the parent of Joshua Smalley-Bower who has been accessing the supports afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. Because of Joshua's medical fragility I have had to remain home to care for him. We were under a horrible emotional strain due to his fragility compounded by the financial strain because I couldn't work since someone needed to be with Joshua 24/7. When we started receiving MR/DD Waiver services a portion of the financial burden was lifted, which in turn reduced the emotional stress on our family. Joshua, like so many other people with disabilities, functions better when he doesn't sense stress.

If we could find someone willing and able to work with our son, I could work, but without MR/DD Waiver we have no option, but to care for his health and safety. Joshua needs to be monitored 24 hours a day. We never know when the next medical emergency will happen. Even when we go into the community, we have a cell phone with us at all times in case of emergency... which happened once walking down South King Street.

Also, because we have all the equipment needed for most medical care we are able to avoid hospitalizations; again a saving to the State. This past Christmas Eve is an excellent example. We were at the Queen's Emergency Room where they discovered Joshua had pneumonia. Because we had the equipment, i.e., oxygen, specialized bed, and pulse-oximeter at home, we were able to save the State the cost of four days hospitalization.

We do everything in our power to provide the safest healthiest environment for our son so that he is safe. When Joshua's health allows, he participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, our son's health and safety are seriously jeopardized.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 946-8335 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Helen Smalley-Bower

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

My husband, I and entire family are submitting this testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** OF SB
1679 on behalf of our son who is disabled. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the
emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined
to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting
appropriations to restore lost funding for the *Department of Health Respite, DD Division
DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs).*

*I am parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the
services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these
services, my husband and I are able to go to work, as well as provide services to our son. My
other son and his girlfriend also provide services through the MR/DD Waiver to our son which
allow my husband and I to be able to go to work knowing that his needs are being met and that
he is safe. My husband and I's join income is what holds our home together, if my son were
not able to be provided with these services, I would have to give up my job, and our economic
hardship would become more stressed. Through the MR/DD Waiver program my son is able
participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen.
Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son would have to be home alone,
which is not possible due to the extent of his disability, as well as disengaged from the
community which would be major health and safety concern.*

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.
Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be
reached at 808-982-7843, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Karen, & Ricky SR. Torres and entire Family.
16-634 Old Volcano Rd.
Kea'au HI 96749
982-7843 (home)

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and David Y. Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I, as a grandmother and volunteer for Special Olympics East Hawaii, am submitting testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1679**. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs).

As a grandparent with a grandson with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. With the support of these services our family feels secure that his needs are being met and that he is safe. My grandson is now able participate in meaningful activities that allow him/her to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my grandson would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern. As a volunteer for Special Olympics I know for a fact the without the passage of bill 1679 may of our athletes would loose services and would not be able to attend athletic practice which is very important for their physical (this is the only physical exercise many of our athletes have) and emotional (the social aspect of spending time with their peers) well being.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in Strong Support of SB 1679. I can be reached at 808-960-3402 or my email for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Suzanne E. Lauer

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

My name is Ellen Aoki I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs).***

I am the primary care giver for my granddaughter who has a disability. We have been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in which have provided the help we have needed in order to provide care. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that her needs are being met and that she is safe. I am 70 yrs old and recently (within the last two weeks) underwent eye surgery as I am partially blind and disabled my self. With the help from the DD/MR waiver my granddaughter has the opportunity to be able to participate in meaningful activities that allow him/her to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my granddaughter would have to be home alone daily, which is not possible,, disengaged from the community, and not allotted the same opportunities as every one else which to me would be major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-959-8099, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Ellen Aoki
1444 Mona Loop
Hilo, Hi 96720
(808) 959-8099

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a guardian of a niece with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. These services are important because they teach her independent living skills.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 235-7621, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Brenda Abe

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. My son has benefited greatly from the supports provided by this program. This program has provided my son with routine and support within the community. These supports have allowed him to participate in community activities that he would not otherwise have the chance to be involved in. This program has also enabled my son to participate in meaningful activities in the community when he would otherwise be at home. Without the services provided by the MR/DD waiver, my son would have to be at home disengaged from the community.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 456-9893, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Lianna McMillan

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
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and Health:

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I am a mother of a daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. I am a single parent and my income is all of the support that I have. If there are any more cuts in services I will have to stay home to take care of my child and we will suffer severe financial difficulty. My child has cerebral palsy and epilepsy and I know that her care takers are trained to handle a seizure if she has one. I know that because of these services she is safe and I am able to work because she can be safe with her care providers.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 551-5398, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Julie Pleasanton

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
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I am a parent of a daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. The services that my daughter receives are essential to her involvement in the community. Because of these services my daughter can be involved in the community and have access to activities like the Special Olympics.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 685-4644, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Paul Kelley

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
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Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
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and Health:

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I am a parent of a daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. Because of these services I am able to go to work and have her be in a safe environment where her personal needs are met. Without these services I may not be able to work and meet my own family's needs or pay my mortgage. There is no other place for my daughter to go that could take care of her. If services were lost I would have to quite my job to care for her and we would loose our home. My daughter was born with only one kidney and also has seizures so she needs to be constantly monitored to make sure her medical needs are met. Without these services it would be impossible to meet her needs. I want you to be aware that my daughter is not just a case or another number but she is a real person who cannot take care of herself unless I can receive the help provided by the MR/DD waiver.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 255-4897, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Janelle Gugudan

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a sister of a person with a disability who has been able to access supports afforded by the MR/DD Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that her needs are being met and that she is safe. My sister needs routine to function and the loss of this routine would result in confusion and increased agitation for her. My sister also has a great bond with her community based provider and this bond is essential to continuity of care and helps her to increase her daily functioning. My sister also has alzheimer's and Dementia and a disruption in her routine may worsen these disorders. Without these services my sister would not be able to be as active or involved in the community. Not only am I able to go to work knowing that my sister is safe, but with these services she is able to participate in meaningful activities that allow her to have a life just like every other citizen.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 351-7508, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Peggy Maki

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
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Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a sister of a person with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. Without these services my sister would not be able to participate in community activities. Without these services she would not be able to get the help that she needs like being active and healthy within the community. Because my sister is able to have these services she is able to participate in meaningful activities within the community and live life like every other citizen.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 262-4515, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Cynthia Silva

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a mother of a daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. Through the DD waver program I am most grateful for services that my daughter receives. She is not home bound and is out in the community where she has opportunities to make friends, socialize, learn to make good choices, and participate in activities such as water exercise, country line dancing and stretching. With the services my daughter is like a plant that has the right environment and nutrients to grow.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 839-4912, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Janice Chang

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. These services provide my son with outings and learning opportunities. The cuts that have already been made have had a big impact on my son's life because he has had difficulty adjusting to the changes in his routine and is no longer able to participate in the Special Olympics without these supports.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 223-1601, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Kathy Keawe

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs)***.

I am the sister in law/guardian of an adult with severe disabilities. Waiver services provide my brother in law with a clean, healthy and safe home. Prior to my brother in law living with us he was institutionalized. This was not a positive experience, it required him to be hospitalized latter. Waiver services also provide my brother in law with opportunities to socialize and access and be a part of his community like everyone else.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-990-4286 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Devi Berinobis

Monday, February 09, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun-Okland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearing-Senate Committee on Human Services & Health Twenty-
Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679-RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday February 10, 2009, 1:15pm

Dear Senators Chun-Okland and Ige and Members of the Joint Committees on Human
Services and Health.

I am submitting testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1679**. This bill makes
emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to
maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health and
welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriation to restore lost funding for the
Department of Health Respite, DD Division/MR Waiver and the DD division Partnership
in Community Living (PICL) programs.

I am a single parent of a young adult male with multiple disabilities. The program in
question is very essential to our daily living. Without these programs it would be very
hard to function normally. And is a part of daily living.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be
putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these
valuable programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in Strong Support of SB 1679. I can
be reached at 808-243-2315 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Vanessa C. Dudoit
Vanessa C. Dudoit

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1679**. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the *Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs*.

I am the grandmother/guardian of two disabled grandchildren that have been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. I am also a recent widow and depend upon these services greatly to assist with maintaining their healthy and safety. I do not drive, however, waiver services have assisted with getting my grandchildren to much needed medical/dental appointments. Waiver services has also been beneficial with helping my children participate in activities out in the community such as Special Olympics and even employment and volunteer opportunities These services have helped my grandchildren to be a part of their community and have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my grandchildren would have to stay home, disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at ~~808-965-7766~~, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Barbra Reny

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1679***. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the *Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs)*.

We are the parent/sister of an adult with a disability. These services provide my brother with the opportunities to access and be a part of his community. Waiver services have also supported my brother with maintaining his health and safety through exercise and seizure awareness. Without these services my brother would not be able to go out and learn how to be more independent. Instead he would be just sitting at home.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at ~~808-969-7197/808-854-5171~~, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Vincelyn Mehau
JoLyn Mehau

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the *Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.*

I am writing you as a service provider for waiver services. I have personally witnessed the need and importance services are to our disabled community and families. These services provide our families and participant opportunities to be a part of their community. Waiver services provide healthy and safe homes for needed chores services. Services provide our participants the opportunity to apply for volunteer and employment opportunities, participate in Special Olympic functions and complete many task that we take for granted daily. I ask you to please support SB 1679.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-756-7740 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Judy Marsh

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1679**. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the *Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.*

I am the parent of a disabled child that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. My child is blind and depends upon the waiver services to provide her the support to learn how to be independent as possible. Through these services my child has learned how to complete simple task that many of us may take for granted, such as feed herself, bath, walk and clean her living area. Our family resides in a rural area, which requires my husband to travel at least 60 miles roundtrip for work. Due to this, I am my child's primary caretaker during the day. I depend upon waiver services to provide me much needed respite and the opportunity for my child to access and be a part of her community and work on becoming more independent. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my child would have to stay home, disengaged from the community which would be a major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at ~~808-962-0806~~ for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Juliet Evangelista

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the *Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs).*

I am the parent of an adult child who has a disability. We are currently appealing a recent cut to her services that were more than 50%. Waiver services have provided my adult child with much needed opportunities to access and be a part of her community. Her waiver services also provide her with a clean, healthy and safe home along with respite for myself.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at ~~808-961-3179~~ for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Jutta Halcamau

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency
appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels
of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am
supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD
Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL
Programs.***

***I am a young adult with a disability. Waiver services help me greatly. I live all by myself on
the Big Island. Waiver services have helped me like a family would. Without these services I
would not be able to do my grocery shopping, banking, bill paying and attend my doctor
appointments. Waiver services also help me access and be a part of my community. I ask that
you continue to support these waiver services, without them I would be just staying at home.***
If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.
Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be
reached at ~~808-934-9206~~, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Kyle Nakasone

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the *Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs).*

I am a young adult with a disability. Waiver services help me access my community and take care of my personal needs such as banking, grocery shopping and medical appointments. Without waiver services I do not know how I would be able to do these things, because I do not drive. Also since I live on the Big Island, public transportation is very limited and taxis are an expense that I can not afford. Waiver services also have supported me with Special Olympic participation and they provide respite for my great grandmother who also lives with me. I ask that you continue to support these waiver services, without them I would be just staying at home.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at ~~808-969-7107~~ for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Matthew Garcia

To the Senate Sergeant-At-Arms: 1-800-586-6659.

February 9, 2009
12:30pm

**Subject: SB 1679-Relating to The Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund
Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and
Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016**

Total Pages including Face sheet: 5

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1679***. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the *Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs)*.

I am the aunt/guardian of an adult child that is severely disabled. Waiver services have provided my nephew with a safe, healthy environment. Through these services we are able to provide a loving home and opportunities for him to access and be a part of his community. My nephew many years ago was institutionalized without our knowledge. This experience was very horrible for him and not successful. We ask that you continue to support these waiver services.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at ~~808-935-2604~~, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Angeline Moniz

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a single working parent of a young child with disabilities. Services help provide my child with opportunities to engage with other children and access his community. As a single parent my resources are very limited. Both of my parents are elderly and unable to watch my child. Having services allow me to continue to work and provide an income for my son and I. Without these services, I will not be able to work, because, I will have to stay home to take care of my child.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-895-3116/808-965-9076, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Cristina Acupan

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1679***. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs)***.

I am the sister in law/guardian of an adult with severe disabilities. Waiver services provide my brother in law with a clean, healthy and safe home. Prior to my brother in law living with us he was institutionalized. This was not a positive experience, it required him to be hospitalized latter. Waiver services also provide my brother in law with opportunities to socialize and access and be a part of his community like everyone else.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-990-4286 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Devi Berinobis

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1679***. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the *Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL) Programs.*

I am the sister/guardian of a disabled child that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. My sister is severely disabled and depends upon the waiver services to provide her the support to learn how to be independent as possible. Through these services my sister has learned how to complete simple task that many of us may take for granted, such as feed herself, communicate and walk. Also, my father s employment requires him to be away from home for most of the day and due to this, I am my sister s primary caretaker during the day. As the parent of two small children, I also depend upon waiver services to provide me much needed respite. Waiver services give my sister the opportunity for her to access and be a part of her community and work on becoming more independent. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my sister would have to stay home, disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at ~~808-934-9587~~ for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Jocelyn Ramones

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the **Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs).**

I go on outings and do Meals on Wheels at the program I go to. I want to keep coming to the ADH program so I can do those things. I would be sad if I couldn't come to the program. I have a PAB worker that helps me with exercise and at my job I have a job coach she helps me to keep my job by watching me bag groceries and find carts. She teaches me how to do my job well.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679.**

Sincerely,


Cody

Recipient of DD/MR Waiver funding, impacted by reductions

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings -- Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency
appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels
of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am
supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the *Department of Health Respite, DD
Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL
Programs.*

*I go to Easter Seals Hawaii's ADH program. It makes me sad because now I can't go as often
because there's no money. I learn how to do my schedule and count bills [money skills]. I
have lots of friends at the program when I'm at home it's boring.*

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.
Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679.**

Sincerely,

Grace

Grace

Recipient of DD/MR Waiver funding, impacted by reductions

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency
appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels
of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am
supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the *Department of Health Respite, DD
Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL
Programs.*

*The ADH program helps me with reading and money skills. My PAB worker helps to keep me
busy and with money skills, he also is helping me look for a job. It would hurt me a lot if you
took these services away. My mom would also be mad because these programs help me a lot.*

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.
Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679.**

Sincerely,

Rae-Anne *RAE-ANNE ROBEX*
Recipient of DD/MR Waiver funding, impacted by reductions

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency
appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels
of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am
supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the *Department of Health Respite, DD
Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL
Programs.*

*It is important for me to come to the ADH program and to have a PAB worker I can't stay
home by myself. You know the TV commercial where the parents go out by themselves then
the daughter's alone and she sees some guy out the window and someone asks her if they
should call the police. That might happen to me when I'm all alone someone might come and
attack me. Easter Seals is very important because I learn how to be independent, just in case
something happens to your mom or dad you can learn. It would be kind of lonely.*

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.
Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679.**

Sincerely,

MAILE Schank
Maile

Recipient of DD/MR Waiver funding, impacted by reductions

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1679**. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the *Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs)*.

It's important that I have a PAB worker to help me clean the house. I like Easter Seals ADH program a lot because I have good friends. I'd be sad and cry a lot if I couldn't come to the program or have my PA worker. It's hard for me to be at home alone because no one is home and I would be scared alone.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**.

Sincerely,

Candace

Candace

Recipient of DD/MR Waiver funding impacted by reductions

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

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I can't stay home by myself because I get scared. I need to come to the program. I see and talk to my friends. I learn cooking and money skills.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in ***Strong Support of SB 1679.***

Sincerely,

KATRINA MUYANAKA

Katrina

Recipient of DD/MR Waiver funding impacted by reductions

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzannne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
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supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD
Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL
Programs***.

I am a person with a disability that has been able to access support because I receive services
offered in the MR/DD Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to participate in
meaningful activities that allow me to have a life just like every other person. Going to program is
good. Everything is good when I get to see staff and my friends. I get to have fun. Without
services, my health and safety would be at risk.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.
Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be
reached at (808)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Sharon Bettencourt

Sharon Bettencourt

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

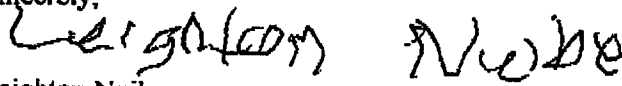
Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

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I am a person with a disability that has been able to access support because I receive services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to participate in meaningful activities that allow me to have a life just like every other person. Belonging to a program and working with staff me make me happy. I have more fun going to program then if I had to stay home alone. I would miss everyone and my health and safety would be at risk.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,


Leighton Nuibe

Monday, February 9, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

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and Health:

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I am a sibling and caregiver of a person with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my brother. Receiving services has helped my brother be able to live with his family instead of living in a care home, where he wouldn't be happy. Through services, he is able to be more independent and receives the best care possible. He receives help with personal care needs and a lot more. If he lived in a care home, it would cost the state and tax payers a lot more money to care for him and he wouldn't be able to get the quality, 24-hour care he does now. With the support of these services, I know that his needs are being met and that he is safe. My brother is able participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my brother would be in a care home, disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 640-2772 or 15-573 South Puni Mauka Lp. Pahoa, HI 96778 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Harriet Schilling

Monday, February 9, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

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I am a parent of Joshua Smalley-Bower who has been accessing the supports afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. Because of Joshua's medical fragility my wife has had to remain home to care for him. We were under a horrible emotional strain compounded by the financial strain because she couldn't work. When we started receiving MR/DD Waiver services a portion of the financial burden was lifted which in turn reduced the emotional stress on our family. Joshua, like so many other people with disabilities, functions better when he doesn't sense stress.

If we could find someone willing and able to work with our son, my wife could work, but without MR/DD Waiver we have no option, but to care for his health and safety. Joshua needs to be monitored 24 hours a day. We never know when the next medical emergency will happen. Even when we go into the community, we have a cell phone with us at all times in case of emergency... which happened once walking down South King Street.

Also, because we have all the equipment needed for most medical care we are able to avoid hospitalizations. Again, a saving to the State. This past Christmas Eve is an excellent case in point. We were at the Queen's Emergency Room where they discovered Joshua had pneumonia. Because we had the equipment, oxygen, specialized bed, pulse-oximeter at home, we were able to save the State the cost of four days hospitalization. We do everything in our power to provide the safest healthiest environment for our son. and that he is safe. When Joshua's health allows he participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, our son's health and safety is again jeopardized.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 946-8335 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

John Scott Bower

ChunOakland3 - Jody

From: Kent Higa (Hilo SSV) [KentH@eastersealshawaii.org]
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2009 12:50 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Subject: Family's testimonies
Attachments: 1 of 5 for SB 1679 February 2009 Human Svcs and health (3).doc; 2 of 5 for SB 1679 February 2009 Human Svcs and health (3).doc; 3 of 5 for SB 1679 February 2009 Human Svcs and health (3).doc; 4 of 5 for SB 1679 February 2009 Human Svcs and health (3).doc; 5 of 5 for SB 1679 February 2009 Human Svcs and health (3).doc

To Whom It May Concern:

The following ⁵ attachments are testimonies from families who currently have Personal Assistance / Habilitation services under the Home and Community Waiver Program. These families are in strong support of bill SB-1679, relating to the emergency and budget reserve to fund the Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living Programs.

Sincerely,

Kent Higa

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

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The Personal Assistance / Habilitation (PAB) services from the DD/MR Waiver program that my daughter receives is a necessary service that has proven to be beneficial to her health and over all well-being. Without these services, my daughter would be at home since there are no other programs suitable to meet my daughter's needs. No other program is skilled and trained to curtail the kinds of behaviors my daughter displays in situations that only she encounters where coping can be difficult. Through the years of receiving PAB services, my daughter has matured, her character molded to where she's able to handle situations in a more manageable way. She has made good progress and continues to improve in every aspect of her life. Currently she's researching job opportunities, and volunteers at a pre-school, becoming a contributing member of her community.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808) 959-1198, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Mary Lou Benevides

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
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I truly believe that the services my son receives through the DD/MR Waiver services are needed for his support, health and well-being. I am a single mom who cannot leave my son under the care of unskilled workers who respectfully work in other after school programs. Having support under the DD/MR Waiver services, I know my son is under the care of trained, skilled staff that is able understand him, redirect his behaviors, and take him into the community to learn life skills.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808) 936-6222, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Angela Evans

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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I am a single parent who has had the privilege to see my special needs daughter in the DD/MR Waiver services grow towards independence in the home as well as out in the community. The DD/MR Waiver services also allowed her to grow in her behavior and character. The skilled, trained staff my daughter has working with her has been the difference in support towards getting her more independent. Without these services, my daughter would spend her time at home, not getting the kind of support and training she so desperately need.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808) 965-8276 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Laverne Sanchez

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
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My daughter's services through the DD/MR Waiver program have been the difference maker in my daughter's life. She has developed life and safety skills she wouldn't have gotten if the services weren't in existence. She is now able to cook and bake with assistance, she is able to cross the street safely, and able to make her own purchases at the stores in the community. If the services were cut any further, or be cancelled altogether, my daughter's health and safety would be at risk.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808) 896-5477, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Lisa Vierra

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
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I am thankful for the services my daughter has received via the DD/MR Waiver Services Program. Over the last couple of years, my daughter has increased her independence to where I never thought was possible for her. With supports, she is now able to do her own laundry, do her own chores, grocery shop at specific stores, and live on her own at her own place. She is also volunteering at a hotel and at the food bank, distributing food for the ones who are in need. Without these services, my daughter would be home bound and lose her independence, increase in negative behavior, and not be a contributing member of her community.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808) 896-3122, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Doris Iwaoka

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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I am a parent of a son with severe disabilities due to a viral encephalitis at the age of 2 years old. My son, Travis, has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I was able to go to work and attend to daily demands and activities,, knowing that his needs and activities created for his specific needs, are being met and that he is being provided a safe and stimulating environment.. My son was able to participate in meaningful activities, , that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son would have to be home...with limited experiences.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-990-3644 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Linde Masuhara, mother of Travis Masuhara, age 28
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
cell- 808-990-3644

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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Our son, Michael, is a 43 year old man with Cerebral Palsy and Mental Retardation. He still lives at home with us and receives personal assistant services with Easter Seals Hawaii. Michael's needs have increased over the years; he now needs physical assistance with bathing, grooming, toileting and other hygiene tasks. He is not able to cook for himself, do his laundry or manage his money. He cannot independently access public transportation. He cannot manage his medical care and must have someone make his appointments and then attend the appointment with him. It is even hard for Michael to communicate when he is sick or in pain, so a vigilant caregiver must observe his behavior and problem solve when changes are observed. In the event of an emergency or natural disaster, he has no self-preservation skills and must be supervised 24/7. He is partially paralyzed on the right side and recently started walking with a cane due to a frequent high rate of falls due to his physical deterioration. Michael's self help skills are not going to improve; over the rest of his lifetime, we can only expect his skills to continue to decline.

My husband and I are also aging and experiencing our own health issues. We are finding it increasingly difficult to provide care for Michael. With Easter Seals Hawaii's help, however, we have been receiving 61 hours of help every week. Michael's care givers assist him with bathing and hygiene tasks each day. His caregivers help him with meals, physical therapy and provide him with opportunities to socialize with his peers and access the community (shopping, going to the movies, going to the park, etc.) These care givers accompany Michael to his doctor and

dentist appointments. These services have allowed Michael to continue to live at home with us, rather than place him in a group home or a foster home. These services also save the State of Hawaii a significant amount of money for Michael's care. Certainly, if he was in a group home, the cost to The State would be much higher than it is now.

Recent budget cuts have cut Michael's service hours down to 42.50 hours per week. This is putting tremendous pressure on our family. My husband and I will have less time to care for ourselves and maintain our own health. The increased physical stress of caring for Michael will surely have a negative effect on our physical health. Michael is frequently moody and has behavioral outbursts related to his disability. This is uncomfortable for many people and limits our ability to maintain a daily schedule and complete daily tasks. Our days are ruled by Michael's "current mood" and interrupts tasks, errands, socializing and family contact on a daily basis. In short, I expect that our family will soon be in crisis and The State of Hawaii will be faced with finding Michael a group living placement AND picking up the bill for those services.

I am also inclined to seek out legal help to advocate for the rights of my son. He should be able to live at home and be adequately supported with community services rather than move into a group home. It simply makes no sense.

I strongly urge you to reconsider recent budget cut backs and understand the devastating effects that this will have on our disabled citizens and their families.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-572-8060, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Lolita Jarnesky

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
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I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. My son benefits greatly from these services because they provide him with instruction on life skills, develop his independence and social interaction. My son would not be able to get these supports without the funding provided by the MR/DD Waiver. Easter Seals is an extremely important part of his life. It is so important for my son to lead a “normal” life, and with these supports he is able to get out into the community and really thrive as an individual.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 623-6501, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Barbara Burke

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

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supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD
Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL
Programs.***

***Hi I am a participant at Easter Seals Hawaii. I want my services back, because I miss going
out into the community in the afternoons with my PA. I thought it was my fault that my time
was cut, but now I don't think that. I would like to have my hours back.***

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.
Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be
reached at 808-959-8099 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Denise Demotta
2469 B
Kilauea Ave
Hilo, Hi 96720

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislaturc
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Subject: SB 1679-RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint committee on Health and
Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human
Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of SB 1679. This bill makes an
emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to
maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health,
and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the
*Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division
Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs).*

I am a parent of an autistic, non-verbal 22-year old son. He has been able to access
support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for him.
With the support of these services, I am able to go to work knowing that his needs are
being met and that he is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but he is able to
participate in meaningful activities, learn valuable social and personal daily living skills
that allow him to have a life like every other citizen. Without the services provided under
the MR/DD Waiver, he would be a home alone disengaged from the community which
would cause major health and safety concerns.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the State will be
putting at risk thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very
valuable programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT of SB 1679.**
I can be reached at 935-8826 or 987-4839 for any further questions.

Sincerely,



Lorna Tadaki

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the **Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs)**.

Individuals who have not raised a child with intellectual disabilities would not be able to relate to the various experiences and challenges that affect the child and family. As a proud parent of a beautiful son who was diagnosed with Down Syndrome fifteen years ago, our family has received many blessings, yet we have faced discrimination with regards to education, after school care, and sports activities. Oftentimes we are told that our son may join a program under the condition that the family provides a personal assistant who would work with the child at all times. For a parent to hear these words is a constant reminder that your child is not normal.

As a mother who is employed on a full-time basis, the MR/DD Waiver provides excellent opportunities after school for my son to realize success, maximize his abilities, interact with peers, staff and the community in meaningful and positive ways. This program provides outstanding resources, as it instills the desire for life-long learning with the help of a Personal Assistant. In addition, the MR/DD Waiver is instrumental in developing independence and self-sufficiency by learning to be contributing members of society who find meaning and purpose in life for themselves. Thus, without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community, which would be a critical health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808) 345-4493, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Joy Reyes
470 Kahikini Street Hilo, HI 96720

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services my son is able to participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community, which would be a major health and safety concern. We have taken continuous cuts over the past year with his respite and PAB services and without these services my son continues to lose his muscle mass and has continued to rely more and more on his wheelchair. These services are essential for him to continue his independence in ambulation.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-487-3048 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Aileen Tom

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a senior citizen who is a single parent caring for my son with multiple disabilities. We would appreciate it if his budget could be reinstated. I am unable to go out into the community to work as there is no one else to care for him. With the cut in services offered by MR/DD Waiver we will not be able to meet our financial obligations and will find ourselves homeless.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808) 454-1023 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Joanne Cusmano

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that his needs are being met and that he is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my son is able to participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen. Because of the drop of services we had to drop services with ESH and we are having difficulty in finding quality services with another agency.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-372-4144 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Tara Inay

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings -- Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a parent of a 23 year-old daughter with Down's syndrome who has been able to attend an adult day health program through Easter Seals, supported by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. The Easter Seals program means so much to her that she doesn't want to go on vacation since she misses her friends and activities so much while gone. As parents, we appreciate that she can have a community of friends in a safe atmosphere, rather than feeling the isolation of her disability in the larger public. While people are generally very nice to her in more public settings, it is at Easter Seals (and other programs like Special Olympics) where individuals with disabilities are accepted for themselves. Also, the program allows her to work with caring mentors who help her to learn life skills. She has made enormous strides in learning to handle money, cooking, dealing with relationships appropriately, and managing her emotions. With the support of these services we have been able to go to work knowing that her needs are being met and that she is safe. Not only have we been able to go to work, but my daughter is able participate in meaningful activities that allow her to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my daughter would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community, which would be a major health and safety concern. As the *aloha* state, I hope that our sons and daughters with disabilities, our most disenfranchised citizens and those least able to speak for themselves, will not be forgotten by lack of this legislative appropriation.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679.** I

can be reached at 239-9291 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Sharan and James Moncur

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a parent of a daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. My daughter is medically fragile and needs constant supervision to remain safe and healthy. She needs to be fed through G-tube, receive suctioning as needed, and range of motion to avoid bed-sores. Because of the recent budget cut, I am unable to go to work as I need to take care of my daughter. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my daughter's health and safety would be a great concern for my family and me.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at **429-1596** for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Un Hee Lee

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

We are the parent/sister of an adult with a disability. These services provide my brother with the opportunities to access and be a part of his community. Waiver services have also supported my brother with maintaining his health and safety through exercise and seizure awareness. Without these services my brother would not be able to go out and learn how to be more independent. Instead he would be just sitting at home.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at [808-969-7197](tel:808-969-7197)/[808-854-5171](tel:808-854-5171), for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Vincelyn Mehau
JoLyn Mehau

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

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I am a young adult with a disability. Waiver services help me access my community and take care of my personal needs such as banking, grocery shopping and medical appointments. Without waiver services I do not know how I would be able to do these things, because I do not drive. Also since I live on the Big Island, public transportation is very limited and taxis are an expense that I can not afford. Waiver services also have supported me with Special Olympic participation and they provide respite for my great grandmother who also lives with me. I ask that you continue to support these waiver services, without them I would be just staying at home.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at **808-969-7107**, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Matthew Garcia

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am the grandmother/guardian of two disabled grandchildren that have been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. I am also a recent widow and depend upon these services greatly to assist with maintaining their healthy and safety. I do not drive, however, waiver services have assisted with getting my grandchildren to much needed medical/dental appointments. Waiver services has also been beneficial with helping my children participate in activities out in the community such as Special Olympics and even employment and volunteer opportunities These services have helped my grandchildren to be a part of their community and have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my grandchildren would have to stay home, disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at **808-965-7766**, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Barbra Reny

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

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and Health:

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I am a young adult with a disability. Waiver services help me greatly. I live all by myself on the Big Island. Waiver services have helped me like a family would. Without these services I would not be able to do my grocery shopping, banking, bill paying and attend my doctor appointments. Waiver services also help me access and be a part of my community. I ask that you continue to support these waiver services, without them I would be just staying at home.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at **808-934-9206**, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Kyle Nakasone

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

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and Health:

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I am the parent of an adult child who has a disability. We are currently appealing a recent cut to her services that were more than 50%. Waiver services have provided my adult child with much needed opportunities to access and be a part of her community. Her waiver services also provide her with a clean, healthy and safe home along with respite for myself.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at [808-961-3179](tel:808-961-3179), for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Jutta Haleamau

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

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I am the parent of a disabled child that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. My child is blind and depends upon the waiver services to provide her the support to learn how to be independent as possible. Through these services my child has learned how to complete simple task that many of us may take for granted, such as feed herself, bath, walk and clean her living area. Our family resides in a rural area, which requires my husband to travel at least 60 miles roundtrip for work. Due to this, I am my child's primary caretaker during the day. I depend upon waiver services to provide me much needed respite and the opportunity for my child to access and be a part of her community and work on becoming more independent. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my child would have to stay home, disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-962-0806, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Juliet Evangelista

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

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I am the sister/guardian of a disabled child that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. My sister is severely disabled and depends upon the waiver services to provide her the support to learn how to be independent as possible. Through these services my sister has learned how to complete simple task that many of us may take for granted, such as feed herself, communicate and walk. Also, my father's employment requires him to be away from home for most of the day and due to this, I am my sister's primary caretaker during the day. As the parent of two small children, I also depend upon waiver services to provide me much needed respite. Waiver services give my sister the opportunity for her to access and be a part of her community and work on becoming more independent. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my sister would have to stay home, disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-934-9587, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Jocelyn Ramones

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

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I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the *Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs).*

I am the aunt/guardian of an adult child that is severely disabled .Waiver services have provided my nephew with a safe, healthy environment. Through these services we are able to provide a loving home and opportunities for him to access and be a part of his community. My nephew many years ago was institutionalized without our knowledge. This experience was very horrible for him and not successful. We ask that you continue to support these waiver services.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at [808-935-2604](tel:808-935-2604), for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Angeline Moniz

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
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I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency
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supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD
Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL
Programs.***

***I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the
services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to assist him towards his goals Independent
Living. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that his needs are
being met and that he is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my son is able participate
in meaningful activities that assists him to reach his goals. Without the services provided
under the MR/DD Waiver, it would cause a major set back to our son who has come so far.
He would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be major
health and safety concern.***

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.
Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be
reached at (808) 938-2833 for any further questions.

Sincerely,


Lori Martin

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a supervisor for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. We provide services to 57 individuals with developmental disabilities on Maui and Lanai. I know of several families who now, because of recent budget cuts, must leave their developmentally disabled family member at home alone. One case is especially concerning. This 30 year old man is diagnosed with Mental Retardation and Cerebral Palsy. He has lost all of his Saturday services due to budget cuts. Therefore, he must stay home alone each Saturday because his parents work outside of the home. This man does not have any self preservation skills. He does not know how to respond to a fire, a smoke alarm or other possible in home emergencies. Even if he knew to respond, his walking ability is so impaired that he wouldn't be able to remove himself from the home. In addition, he does not understand the concept of a "stranger" and is an easy target for a predator.

Another disturbing case involves a 16 year old young man with Down Syndrome and his single mother. They have been hard hit financially by the recent events in the economy. Even though this mother works full time, they are close to losing their home. This young man's after school and weekend services were cut from 36 hours per week to 25 hours per week. Now, this mother must choose between working and providing supervision for her son. She has told me that they might need to move into a homeless shelter soon. In addition, the staff member that used to provide the 35 hours of service per week is now looking for more work in a time where there are few jobs available.

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016


Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency
appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels
of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am
supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD
Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL
Programs.***

***I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the
services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to assist him towards his goals Independent
Living. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that his needs are
being met and that he is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my son is able participate
in meaningful activities that assists him to reach his goals. Without the services provided
under the MR/DD Waiver, it would cause a major set back to our son who has come so far.
He would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be major
health and safety concern.***

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.
Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be
reached at (808) 938-2833 for any further questions.

Sincerely,


Lori Martin

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a parent of a son/daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that his/her needs are being met and that he/she is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my son/daughter is able participate in meaningful activities that allow him/her to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son/daughter would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community, which would be major health and safety concern. Further, I provide behavioral services to the most high profile MR/DD Waiver clients on Maui. In order for me to provide behavioral services to those clients, I need care for my disabled son.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 264-7164, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Boyd, M.S., B.C. B. A.

From: kahukama@aol.com [mailto:kahukama@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2009 3:30 PM
To: HMS Testimony; HTHTestimony
Subject: JOINT SENATE HEARING on HUMAN SERVICES, HEALTH, FEBRUARY 10 2009 ROOM 016 1:15 PM

Joint Senate Committee on Human Services and Senate Committee on Health
Chairs Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

February 9, 2009

Subject: SB 1679-
RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm Conference Room 016

I am submitting testimony in IN SUPPORT of SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs).

My daughter Davilene “Lena” Kama was born at Maui Memorial Hospital 21 years ago with Down’s Syndrome. She has been able to access support services through the DOH, DD Division DD/MR Waiver and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL) Programs. Lena is vivacious, funny, helpful, thoughtful, warmhearted, kind, gentle who is able to feed, bathe, and dress herself. Much of this is made possible through the above mentioned program. She is in need of much more support to make her a contributing member of our society on Maui. Our goal for her is to live independently, have a job, marry if she chooses, raise a family should she desire. Many of these daily activities are simple to accomplish for the normal child or adult, but Lena is not normal, she is special. She has had to learn these things and works hard at them; these programs have allowed her to develop into the young woman she is today and with continued support she will be able to live the life that persons with disabilities 50 years ago never imagined.

I have had to reduce her current service program by 15% and was notified the PICL had ceased to exist! In these times of hardships, i urge your passage of SB 1679 for the weakest and most fragile of our community; our disabled children and adults.

Mahalo for the opportunity to present testimony in **Support of SB 1679.**

Me ka ha’aha’a,

N. Tasha Kama
P. O. Box 503
Wailuku, HI 96793

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a parent of a daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that her needs are being met and that she is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my daughter is able participate in meaningful activities that allow her to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my daughter would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at gelizares@hawaii.rr.com for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Gail Elizares

Monday, February 09, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun-Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearing – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: **SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND**

Hearing: Tuesday February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

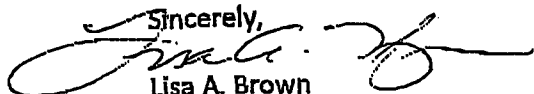
Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige and Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health.

I am submitting testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1679**. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL) Programs.

I am a single parent of a son and daughter both with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my children. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that their needs are being met and that they are safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my children are able to participate in meaningful activities that allow them to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son and daughter would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be a major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 984-7419 for any further questions.

Sincerely,



Lisa A. Brown

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs)***.

Though the cut backs were suppose to be 15% my family's hours were cut back by 40% because the state looked at the accessed hours not authorized hours and we have always been conservative never to take advantage of the hours authorized. The authorized hours help us during school closures and medical situations. My child is very complex and is facing her third major surgery this year which will take us out of state for 2 months. Her PA was able to accompany us at our cost for transportation and lodging, so I could get some respite from the hospital day. Now we barely have 20 hours a week which is not enough to get us through those 2 plus grueling months in the hospital. We also don't have enough time to cover school closures. Without help we are faced with cutting my already just part time hours to stay with her since she cannot be home by herself. This will have an extreme impact on our family, I will lose my medical coverage and the cut in pay will be difficult. Please pass SB1679 to help restore the lost funding.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-281-8579, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Josette Barrett

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
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and Health:

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I work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 so that the people we support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job, benefits and my livelihood. I have a baby on the way, and this is a bad time for me to have to look for a new job.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-249-2065, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Leah Osorno

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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I work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 so that the people we support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job, benefits and my livelihood. I have a baby on the way, and this is a bad time for me to have to look for a new job.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-249-2065, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Erica Meyer

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
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I work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 so that the people we support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job, benefits and my livelihood.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-249-2065, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Andrea Fukushima

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
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I work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 so that the people we support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job, benefits and my livelihood.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-463-0494, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Opu'ulani Tasienu

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

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As neighbors of Josh Smalley-Bower & his parents we are reminded daily of their blessings from continuous efforts to keep this young man happy & as well as possible with the many physical problems faced daily. The supplies & equipment necessary for his health care are Staggering. The medical comebacks we've seen over the years are amazing. All this takes Time & love from Helen & Scott & the money from Department of Health.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at [941-7897](tel:941-7897), for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Karl R. Dye
Kathleen R. Dye
2825 S. King St. #2402
Honolulu HI 96826

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

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I work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 so that the people we support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job, benefits and my livelihood.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-457-8204, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Joana Juarityte

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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I work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 so that the people we support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job, benefits and my livelihood.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-249-2065, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Natassja Arriaga

Monday, February 9, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
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I am a person who receives PAB 1 services through the DD/MR Medicaid Waiver Program. Through this program, I am able to socialize with my friends and make more friends. I am able to exercise every day and stay healthy in a safe environment. I can also work to improve on my life skills such as cooking, budgeting, attending necessary appointments, shopping, etc. I really enjoy receiving services and being a part of my community.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 933-2344 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Chloe Awong-Seghorn

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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I work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 so that the people we support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job, benefits and my livelihood.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-281-0421, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Edna Favinger

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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I work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 so that the people we support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my HOUSE, my job, benefits and my livelihood.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-357-6629, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Hoe

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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I work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 so that the people we support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job, benefits and my livelihood.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-874-2501, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Dawn Arveson

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. Depriving our son from monthly services that allow him to go out into the community and participate in community activities. This is a disruption in his routine and he can no longer participate in these activities because he does not have the community based provider as a support.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 291-0362, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Gordon Sam

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

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If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-264-0597, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Abigail Schwartz

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
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I work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 so that the people we support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job, benefits and my livelihood.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-566-5866, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Brandon Pell

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

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As a parent of a 26 year old woman with autism, I can attest that those adults with autism, for God know what reasons, have higher needs. They usually demonstrate greater behavioral challenges as they get older. **The quality and consistency of support makes all the difference in these people's lives, giving them the chance to improve themselves and move towards independence and contributing to our community. Please support our children with special needs.**

I am a parent of a son/daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that his/her needs are being met and that he/she is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my son/daughter is able participate in meaningful activities that allow him/her to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son/daughter would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at [2490254](tel:2490254), for any further questions.

God bless you and mahalo for your good support of the people of Hawaii,
Christina Chang
Mother of Malia La'a Kea Angelica Chang

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

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and Health:

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I am a parent of a daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that her needs are being met and that she is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my daughter is able participate in meaningful activities that allow her to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my daughter would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern. For these reasons, I am very upset. Why should our children be punished! It is improper and unprofessional for services to be taken away from these vulnerable and unfortunate kids. Why do our kids have to go without all the time. These funds help my daughter and other individuals with disabilities a "normal" life. My daughter is entitled to these funds.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 854-6833 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Debbie Seghorn

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs)***.

I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that his needs are being met and that he is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my son is able participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-871-4656, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Lisa Kemp

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 so that the people we support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job, benefits and my livelihood.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-385-4424, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Clara Stewart

February 9, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND – **STRONG SUPPORT**

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing),
Conference Room 016

Dear Senators,

I am strongly in support of this bill, which will restore funding to programs including DOH Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and PICL (Partnerships in Community Living Programs).

As the parent of a child who is disabled, and a 15 year board member of Easter Seals Hawaii (ESH), I have a very personal experience with the results of these programs. My family and I have supported ESH for many years. They served our son and continue to support us and other families with services that are essential to our son's becoming a productive member of our society. Without these programs, our kids receive little or no socialization with their peers. Social skills in many of our kids need to be taught just like math and science. Without these programs, our kids will not be employable, they won't have friends, they won't have lives that are full like the rest of ours. As you know, ESH is a non-profit who works tirelessly to serve the underserved in our community.

While I know that you all have very difficult cuts to make in these difficult times, we will all be measured in the end by how we treat the most vulnerable in our society. I urge you to keep the doors open on these programs.

Thank you for all of your many years of community service. We are very fortunate to have many like you in the legislature as champions of those less fortunate.

Aloha,

Sue Sylvester-Palumbo, DVM
The Cat Clinic
1131 Kapahulu Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96816
732-8884

Monday, February 9, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

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I am a single parent of a son who is severely disabled and totally dependent on others for his every day living. His survival depends on the care of many people. He currently receives nursing care during the night, as the doctor has stressed that these are valuable needs. It is amazing that he is still with us due to the great care that he receives. Honestly, I would hate to think of the consequences presented by not having these services in place, but realistically, should these cuts take place, his and my health will diminish as I am unable to care for him on my own. And I know that he would die without the same care that he has been receiving. Please allow him to continue to remain with us and have him continue to enjoy the rest of his life in his own, safe and loving surroundings.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808) 245-3111 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Jocelyn Iida-Yamamoto

Tuesday, February 9, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
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and Health:

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My name is Kaliko Ahyo and I am a parent of a child with disabilities and a Community Based Provider/Direct Service Worker of a person with a disability. The Medicaid Waiver program supports and makes it possible for our participants to access the community and socialize with others in the community. I have seen my participant improve in her social skills and life skills and can see that these services makes a difference in the lives of the participants. My participant is happy receiving services as she is able to socialize with others and be a part of her community. Without services, my participant's access to the community would be very limited as her mother needs to work.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 989-7685 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Kaliko AhYo

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

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I work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 so that the people we support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job, benefits and my livelihood.

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Sincerely,
Michelle McGaw

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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Sincerely,
Abigail Schwartz

Monday, February 9, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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Sincerely,

Jocelyn Iida-Yamamoto

JAMES K. MICHISHIMA

95-501 Awiki Street
Mililani, Hawai'i 96789

Tuesday, February 9, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

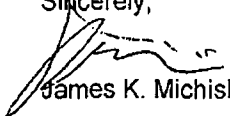
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I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services my son is able to participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life like other every other citizen. In addition, I am able to go to work knowing that his/her needs are being met and that he is safe. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son would have to be home alone, or on the streets, disengaged from the community, which would be a major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-487-9002 for any further questions.

Sincerely,



James K. Michishima

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

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If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808)968-6080, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Dolores Verbanic

Monday, February 09, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
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I am an Easter Seals Hawai`i employee. Recently the state cut a part of our funding that supports our Medicaid Waiver Program. Through the waiver, it allows our participants with developmental disabilities to be important members of our community. I see first hand how the recent budget cuts have effective our participants. Participants have less time to access their community and work on their goals. It has been difficult for families to find coverage for the times that are being cut, especially for the families that need to work to support their family. The cuts have also affected the 80 plus direct services workers that we employ. Some of their paychecks have been cut in half and some are losing their medical benefits. It has defiantly become a hardship for participants, families and our workers especially in these tough times.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-557-3795, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Gracie Pakani

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

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I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am a parent of a daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that her needs are being met and that she is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my daughter is able participate in meaningful activities such as Special Olympics that allow her to maintain her physical fitness and increase her social skills, and have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my daughter would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be a major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808)990-5751, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Carey Uchida

Joint Senate Committee on Human Services and Senate Committee on Health
Chairs Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

February 9, 2009

Subject: SB 1679-
RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm Conference Room 016

I am submitting testimony in IN SUPPORT of SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs).

My daughter Davilene “Lena” Kama was born at Maui Memorial Hospital 21 years ago with Down’s Syndrome. She has been able to access support services through the DOH, DD Division DD/MR Waiver and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL) Programs. Lena is vivacious, funny, helpful, thoughtful, warmhearted, kind, gentle who is able to feed, bathe, and dress herself. Much of this is made possible through the above mentioned program. She is in need of much more support to make her a contributing member of our society on Maui. Our goal for her is to live independently, have a job, marry if she chooses, raise a family should she desire. Many of these daily activities are simple to accomplish for the normal child or adult, but Lena is not normal, she is special. She has had to learn these things and works hard at them; these programs have allowed her to develop into the young woman she is today and with continued support she will be able to live the life that persons with disabilities 50 years ago never imagined.

I have had to reduce her current service program by 15% and was notified the PICL had ceased to exist! In these times of hardships, i urge your passage of SB 1679 for the weakest and most fragile of our community; our disabled children and adults.

Mahalo for the opportunity to present testimony in **Support of SB 1679.**

Me ka ha’aha’a,

N. Tasha Kama
P. O. Box 503
Wailuku, HI 96793

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs.***

I am the legal guardian for a disabled sibling that has access to services afforded in the MR/DD Waiver. These support services allow my sister to engage in meaningful activities in her community and daily life. The health and safety of the disabled Citizen and their family/caregivers requires your attention and immediate support for funding.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 206-714-2483 or 206-363-6708 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Terry K. Kimura

Lanakila Pacific
1809 Bachelot Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

Bill No: SB1679	Title: Health-Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund
Committee: Senate Committees on Human Services	Hearing Date: February 10, 2009 Time: 1:15 p.m. Place: State Capitol Room 016 415 South Beretania St
Submitted by: Name: Remedios S. Rueda Title: Director, Lanakila Meals on Wheels	Contact Information: Remy Rueda Phone: 808-356-8558 Fax:
Testimony in: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUPPORT <input type="checkbox"/> OPPOSITION of proposed bill.	

Founded in 1939, Lanakila Rehabilitation Center, Inc., dba Lanakila Pacific is a private, Hawaii-based non-profit offering programs and social enterprises that build independence for thousands of people with challenged lives each year.

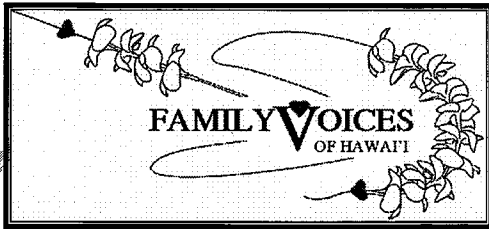
Lanakila Pacific's Programs serve over 2,479 Oahu residents annually with programs that build life skills, which in turn support our greater community, 2,242 of these individuals are Lanakila Meals on Wheels participants and are 60 years and older.

We are in full support of the SB1679 and strongly suggest that the state's Kupuna Care programs under the Executive Office on Aging be included upon funding this bill. I humbly request that the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund be passed having Kupuna Care Program in mind so that the frail and elderly of our community live with dignity in their own homes.

Section 328L-3 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes, specific purposes for the fund include the maintaining of levels of program determined to be essential to public health, safety, welfare, and education describes frail and vulnerable seniors in the state of Hawaii. The Lanakila Meals on Wheels and more witnessed seniors' vulnerability: some were forced to eat dog/cat food or saw seniors who have not eaten in days and shaking from hunger until meals were delivered.

Passing and including the Kupuna Care programs to SB1679 will help seniors especially those who are closest to the poverty line.

Thank you very much for all your help!



HILOPA'A

Family to Family Health Information Center

Date: February 9, 2009

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Senator David Ige, Chair

Senator Josh Green, MD, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair

Fr: Leolinda Parlin, State Coordinator for Family Voices of Hawai'i

Re: **SUPPORT** with amendments-- SB1679 -- Appropriates funds from emergency budget and reserve funds

On behalf of Family Voices of Hawai'i, I offer testimony in support of SB1679 and endorse the amendments proposed by the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. SB1679 appropriates funds to the department of health to provide for continued respite services for family caregivers, and will the proposed amendments specifically allocates funds to reconstitute the Department of Health Respite and Partnership in Community Living (PICL) programs. The amendments also call to restore funding the DD/MR Waiver program for the state match for federal dollars.

As an organization, Family Voices is national grass roots organization of family of friends of child with special health care needs. In Hawai'i, we operate the federally funded Hilopa'a Family to Family Health Information Center.

The moral test of government is how government treats children, the elderly, and those who are sick, in need and with disabilities. SB1679 demonstrates to our community that our government can do what is *pono*. Our rainy day has arrived. By investing in our children and those in need, the state will help to strengthen our families, who, through moving forward, will carry us through these tough economic times.

Thank you for your time and consideration in passing SB1679.

**SB1679 RELATING TO EMERGENCY BUDGET AND RESERVE FUND
Appropriates moneys from the emergency budget and reserve fund to maintain
levels of programs for education, human services, and health**

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair; Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair, Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, February 10, 2009
TIME: 1:15 p.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 016

Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition (HSAC)

Aloha, Chairs and distinguished members. My name is Alan Johnson, Chairperson of the Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition, which is a hui of 22 treatment agencies throughout the state.

HSAC supports SB1679

HSAC applauds the Legislature for recognizing the current and impending situation that jeopardizes the safety net of basic human service, health, and education needs for Hawaii's residents and families. And while all of Hawaii's residents will be affected by the economic situation, gap group families and families closest to the poverty line will suffer the most.

Treatment Works and Saves Money!

According to Department of Health outcomes, treatment is effective for both adolescents and adults. The outcome data is available at <http://hawaii.gov/health/substance-abuse/prevention-treatment/treatment/adtrtwo.htm>

Given the recent substantial advances in treatment methodologies over the last several years, treatment is more cost effective than customary alternatives. Treatment can save huge dollars in each and every year.

1. Fact: Alcohol and drug abuse cost over \$166 billion each year in lost productivity, law enforcement, criminal case processing, treatment and health care costs.
2. Fact: In 1997, almost 10% of the adult population and 6% of adolescents need treatment in Hawaii.

3. Fact: Treatment is 7 times more cost effective in reducing cocaine consumption than the best supply control program in the United States.
4. Fact: Treatment is far less expensive than the likely alternatives. One year of treatment costs \$11,500. One year of incarceration costs \$39,600. One year of untreated addiction costs society an estimated \$43,200.
5. Fact: \$1 invested in substance abuse treatment saves taxpayers \$7 in future costs; that \$1 invested in treatment could save \$11.54 in combined medical and social costs; for every \$1 spent on substance abuse treatment \$5.60 was returned in reduced welfare, food stamps, Medicaid, crime courts, and imprisonment.

Substance abuse treatment reduces crime

1. Fact: Thirty three percent of all criminal justice costs relate to substance abuse.
2. Fact: State court data shows that the majority of state felony convictions in 1994 were for drug (31%) or property offenses (32%). Also 33% of all murders or manslaughter incidents and over 50% of spousal murders are drug or alcohol related.
3. Fact: Over 1.6 million adults (55%) in probation and parole programs need alcohol or drug treatment.
4. Treatment works: Results of a treatment study report significant declines in criminal activity.
 - Reports of arrests of selling drugs decreased by 78.2%, from 64% to 13.9%.
 - Reports of arrests of shoplifting decreased by 81.6%, from 63.7% to 11.7%.
 - Reports of "beating someone up" decreased by 77.6%, from 49.3% to 11%.
 - Reports of arrests for any crimes decreased by 64.2%, from 48.2% to 17.2% in the comparison years.
 - Drug sales dropped by 68%;
 - Breaking and entering dropped by 61%;
 - Selling sex dropped by 54%;
 - Use of weapons or physical force dropped by 75%.

Substance Abuse Treatment Reduces Health Care Costs

1. Fact: More than 70 conditions requiring hospitalization (including cancer, heart disease, and HIV/AIDS) have risk factors associated with substance abuse; and \$1 of every \$5 Medicaid spends on hospital care is attributable to substance abuse or a related condition.

2. Fact: On the average, untreated alcoholics generally incur general health care costs that are at least 100% higher than those of the non-alcoholic. In the 12 months before treatment, the alcoholic's costs are close to 300% higher.
3. Treatment works: Substance abuse treatment reduces overall hospital admission rates by at least 38%. Hospital admissions for drug overdose decreased by 58% among those who had been treated.
4. Treatment works: *Alcohol Health & Research World* reported findings that 50 percent of the costs of alcohol and drug abuse treatment are offset within one year by subsequent reductions in medical costs by the affected family, and not just the primary patient.

Substance Abuse Treatment and Women, Mothers and Infants

1. Fact: Over 5% of women who gave birth in the US in 1992 used illegal drugs sometime during their pregnancy; and over 750,000 women (18.8%) used alcohol at some time during their pregnancy.
2. Fact: Over 60% of all pediatric AIDS cases are related to maternal exposure to HIV through drug use or sex with a drug user.
3. Treatment works: In a CSAT funded program, 95% of women reported uncomplicated, drug-free births after one year of treatment; and \$43,000 to \$145,000 can be saved for each pregnancy and delivery uncomplicated by alcohol or substance abuse.
4. Treatment works: Injecting drug use is the primary mode of transmission of HIV among women and is responsible for 71% of AIDS cases among women.

Substance Abuse and Business

1. Fact: Untreated addictions cost American businesses from \$50 to \$100 billion each year in increased medical claims and disability costs from illnesses and injuries, theft, absenteeism, and decreased productivity.
2. Fact: Thirty eight to 50% of all workers' compensation claims are related to the abuse of alcohol or illicit drugs in the workplace.
3. Treatment works: Employment increased by 44% during treatment, and stabilized at an increase of 94% after one year of treatment.
4. Treatment works: Annual earnings for those who completed treatment ranged from 49% higher for those who completed outpatient treatment to 136% higher among those who completed methadone treatment.

5. Treatment works: Colorado found that substance abusers who completed treatment had an average salary increase of \$2,760 a year; and the percentage of clients employed improved by 70%.
6. Treatment works: Following treatment, worker absenteeism in Ohio decreased by 89%, tardiness by 92% and on-the-job injuries by 57%.

References: Please refer to <http://hawaii.gov/health/substance-abuse/prevention-treatment/treatment/adtrtwo.htm>

We appreciate the opportunity to provide information and are available for questions, if needed.



PACT
PARENTS AND CHILDREN TOGETHER
A Family Service Agency

1485 Linapuni Street, Suite 105
 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96819
 Tel. (808) 847-3285
 Fax (808) 841-1485

OAHU PROGRAMS

- COMMUNITY TEEN CENTER
- CPS VISITATION CENTERS
- EARLY HEAD START/
HEAD START
- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
CENTER
- FAMILY PEACE CENTER
- FAMILY VISITATION CENTER
- HANA LIKE HOME
VISITOR PROGRAM
- INTENSIVE SUPPORT SERVICES
- KANEOHE COMMUNITY
FAMILY CENTER
- KPT FAMILY CENTER
- OHIA - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
SHELTER
- RESPIRE CARE

MAUI COUNTY PROGRAMS

- FAMILY PEACE CENTER
- INTENSIVE SUPPORT SERVICES
- LANAI INTEGRATED SERVICES

KAUAI COUNTY PROGRAMS

- INTENSIVE SUPPORT SERVICES

MEMBER:

- CWLA
- ALOHA UNITED WAY
- COA

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

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
 Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair
 Committee on Health

FROM: Haaheo Mansfield
 Vice President of Programs
 Parents And Children Together

DATE: February 9, 2009

SUBJECT: SB 1679 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

My name is Haaheo Mansfield. I am the Vice President of Programs at Parents And Children Together. I strongly urge you to support SB 1679, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund, aka, "the rainy day fund." In 1999 this fund was created to respond to "...times of emergency, economic downturn, or unforeseen reduction in revenues." I believe we can all agree that Hawaii's economy is in crisis and that now is the time to access the "rainy day fund."

Parents And Children Together has been a provider of Healthy Start services since 1981 and prior to that, had been providing home visitation services to at risk families through our Hana Like Home Visitor Program. In past years, we have also provided services to children diagnosed with autism. Today, we continue our commitment to meet the mental health needs of adolescents through our Multisystemic Therapy and Functional Family Therapy programs.

If the global economic condition worsens, as it is expected to, those most vulnerable will bear the brunt of its impact. The purpose of SB 1679 is to appropriate moneys from the emergency and budget fund to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public healthy and public welfare. It supports the reasons for the creation of the "rainy day fund" and the time to act is now.

I strongly urge you to support the passage of SB 1679. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important issue.



Hawai'i Primary Care Association

345 Queen Street | Suite 601 | Honolulu, HI 96813-4718 | Tel: 808.536.8442 | Fax: 808.524.0347
www.hawaiiPCA.net

To: **The Senate Committee on Human Services**
The Hon. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
The Hon. Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair

The Senate Committee on Health
The Hon. David Y. Ige, Chair
The Hon. Josh Green, MD, Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 1679
Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund
Submitted by Beth Giesting, CEO
February 10, 2009, 1:15 p.m. agenda, Room 016

The Hawaii Primary Care Association strongly supports this bill to ensure adequate funding for essential services in the face of our state and national economic crisis. We ask that you include in this bill funds for the uninsured.

- The State Department of Health eliminated **\$3.5 million in funds to pay for health care for the uninsured** at Community Health Centers and other providers. This program serves many of the 31,000+ uninsured people who are cared for by CHCs every year. State funds have been available for this purpose for more than 15 years.
- The State Department of Human Services, Med-QUEST Division eliminated **\$550,000 for the Immigrant Health Initiative** which pays for outpatient care for legal immigrants who meet eligibility criteria for Medicaid but are not entitled to public means-tested benefits because they've been in the country for less than five years. Last year 1,667 people were served by this program, 42% of whom were aged 65 and older and another 33% were aged 45 to 64. This program has been in existence since federal welfare reform barred immigrants from benefits in 1996.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this measure and for considering the needs of the growing number of uninsured residents of Hawaii, as well as many other people who are more vulnerable than ever during this unsettling time.

Testimony in favor of SB 1679, the Emergency Budget and Reserve Fund, from Linda Coble, Advisory Board, Hawaii Family Support Institute. 284-2000

Aloha Senators Chun Oakland, English, Espero, Fukunaga, Galuteria, Green, Hanabusa, Hee, Hooser, Ige, Ihara, Kidani, Kokubun, Nishihara, Sakamoto, Takamine, Tokuda, Tsutsui, Baker, Bunda, Gabbard, Kim, Taniguchi, and other supporters who believe in the Prevention of Child Abuse,

I submit this testimony in favor of SB 1679, as a volunteer involved with the prevention of child abuse, since the early days when Hawaii's Healthy Start program became a model for the rest of the country through the Healthy Family America initiative. The vision began here. Mahalo to the Hawaii State Legislature, for launching the prevention initiative and funding it throughout the years. Endless statistical evidence supports your rationale...prevention is the key! Healthy Start cannot....must not... end here, especially when families have the added stress of this economic downturn and may lash out in frustration at the most innocent under their roof. I am not a provider. I am not employed by an organization supported by state contract funds. But as I trust all of you do...I care about the consequences of ripping away the safety net of prevention, hospital based identification of at-risk families, home visitation and referrals to the necessary agencies where identified by Healthy Start teams.

I am a former reporter, who has interviewed families grateful for the support of this program and proud to show how the program has helped them grow great kids. They have told me that without the program, they would have 'lost it'. I have covered the ugly cases of families who did not take advantage of Healthy Start, and caused heartbreaking harm to their keiki. I have covered other agencies trying to stay afloat with overwhelming case loads. What will happen, when the preventative attention provided by Healthy Start no longer wraps the family in support and those agencies are overwhelmed by unexpected cases? I know what will happen, and so do you. That's why we elected you.

Yes, Healthy Start is a voluntary program. What program funded by the DOH isn't !! Yes, there is Enhanced Healthy Start to serve the at risk families....but they see them AFTER THE FACT...AFTER THE HARM HAS BEEN DONE !

Healthy Start has been evaluated more than any program I know, and for families that stay 12 months or more in the program, in FY 08, more than 99% had no report of child abuse. This rate compares very favorably to programs using our model all over the country...in at least 35 states. Healthy Start is cost effective...every one dollar invested in child abuse prevention returns at least three dollars in benefits and cost avoidance. You have scores of documents to support this.

Eliminate this program, and 4-thousand families at risk of child abuse will not have an alternative program...an alternative way out. Eliminate Healthy Start, and we will all wait together, until reporters describe the grizzly details of child abuse on the evening news and in the paper, and we sit back and say....you know, we could have prevented this, by investing in prevention. I don't want to sit back and say that. And neither do you. Preserve our keiki and family safety net, by restoring funding to Healthy Start.

Mahalo and Aloha for your support of SB1679

Linda Coble
284-2000
Honolulu



Malama O Kamali'i Makamae

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chairperson
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice-Chairperson
Senate Committee on Human Services

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair
Senate Committee On Health

FROM: D. Keala Naluai, President
Malama O Kamali'i Makamae
PO Box 4982
Kaneohe, HI 96744

Date: Thursday, February 10, 2009 @ 1:15 pm. in Room 016

RE: SUPPORT: SENATE BILL 1679, "The Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund"

We support this Senate Bill 1679 and respectfully ask that your committee consider passing this measure for the purpose of "the maintaining of levels of programs determined to be essential to public health, safety, welfare, and education."

We know that the State is experiencing economic calamity, due to many businesses laying off hundreds of workers, several without warning, causing devastating effects on thousands of Hawaii families left to fend for themselves. Unemployment lines are rapidly increasing. The discontinuance of educational materials, text books, and literacy training for learning-disabled children is unacceptable; the elimination of early childhood care and healthy start programs is alarming; the short fall in health care for the developmentally disabled and mental health services is tragic. Poverty and homelessness will become an enormous health, social, educational and economic burden statewide. (SB 1679).

There are many other problems that would cause havoc to our State's economy and more importantly, disaster for our islands' citizens.

Please consider this important measure and I hope that you will find favor, in behalf of our people and for the overall health, welfare, and education systems for our State by passing Senate Bill 1679.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify!



Family Support Services of West Hawaii

75-127 Lunapule Rd., #11

Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

Phone: (808) 326-7778 Fax: (808) 326-4063

Email: kids@fsswh.org

To: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair and Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair and Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committees on Human Services and Health

Date of Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Time of Hearing: 1:15 pm

Place: Conference Room 016, State Capitol

Testimony: In **support** of SB 1679: Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Good Morning Senator Chun-Oakland, Senator Ige,, Senator Ihara, Senator Green and members of the Committees on Human Services and on Health.

I am grateful for the opportunity to present testimony to your Committees this afternoon. My name is JoAnn Bishop Freed and I am the Executive Director of Family Support Services of West Hawaii on the island of Hawaii. Family Support Services of West Hawaii will celebrate its 30th anniversary in 2009. Since 1979, the agency has been fulfilling its mission to “**support families and communities in providing love and care for our children.**” Begun by a group of community volunteers concerned about the victims of child abuse and neglect, Family Support Services of West Hawaii (FSSWH) has been in the forefront of establishing innovative programs and activities designed to support all families as they strive to raise healthy, happy children on the island of Hawaii.

Throughout Hawaii’s history, parents have used all kinds of support systems outside of their immediate families to help them raise their children. These have included informal networks of friends and neighbors, Tutus and aunties who gave advice and care, religious organizations, doctors, teachers and other professionals who helped when they were needed. It is a fact of modern Hawaiian life, however, that these support systems are less available to families than they used to be, while the challenges facing all parents and children are greater than ever.

Today, times are particularly rough for families—our local economic factors have resulted in families having less time and resources to devote to their children; changes in family structure have altered traditional bonds among family members; geographic mobility has stranded young families far from the support of extended family or friends; and growing poverty has left many families without the means to meet basic needs. The stress caused by such changes has left many adults less able to provide support to each other when it is needed most, and we now know the toll that early and excessive stress takes on the neurological development of the brain of vulnerable infants. Parents know very well what they are up against and are struggling to do the best they can for their children.

If ever young families needed the benefit of a safety net it would be now, before the life-long effects of the stress of living in poverty and other adverse childhood experiences takes its toll on the development of our youngest, most vulnerable children. The stress caused by poverty can corrode family relationships, including parents' relationships with their children, making it more difficult for many parents to provide consistent and involved parenting. Parental stress particularly impacts upon the developing child, but excessive stress, regardless of source, disrupts the neuron pathways of a child's developing brain. This can cause lifelong problems in learning, behavior, physical and mental health.

Research on resiliency highlights the protective factors for individuals that may reduce the impact of poverty. Research has shown that having access to another involved significant adult outside the family helps a child cope with stress. Such relationships may also help to develop a sense of belonging to a community, which in turn leads to informal supports and collaborations. There is also evidence that home visiting programs such as Hawaii's Healthy Start have a positive impact on families.

I hope you will support Senate Bill Number 1679: Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund. This bill proposes to appropriate moneys from the emergency and reserve budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to the education, public health and public welfare of our citizens—including our littlest ones.

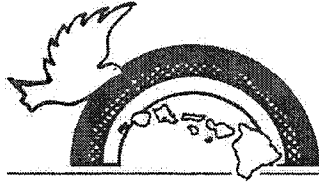
Children born into disadvantaged environments are more likely to experience compromised childhoods unless interventions and supports are provided to offset the effects of poverty. That is why we cannot abandon our children because "there is no money," any more than we would expect a family to abandon its children for the same reason. My fear is that is exactly what will happen in Hawaii without its safety net.

Thank you so much for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "JoAnn Bishop Freed". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and 'F'.

JoAnn Bishop Freed
Kailua-Kona



The Arc of Kauai ←

for Children and Adults with Disabilities

3201 Akahi Street, Lihue, Hawaii 96766, Phone (808) 245-4132, Fax (808) 246-1721

7 Testimonies

February 9, 2009

Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair and Members of the Human Services Committee and
Honorable Senator David Y. Ige, Chair and Members of the Health Committee
State Capitol, Hawaii State Senate
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: SB 1679 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Dear Chair Chun Oakland and Chair Ige and Members of the Committees:

My name is Ellen Ching and for the past 25 years, I have served as the Executive Director of The Arc of Kauai. The Arc of Kauai is a private non-profit organization that was formed by parents in 1961. Our primary mission is to secure for all people with developmental disabilities the opportunity to realize their goals and to choose where and how they learn, live, work and play. To this end, The Arc of Kauai develops implements and maintains a variety of programs and services for approximately 191 individuals.

I am writing this letter in strong support of SB 1679.

This bill will restore funding for the Department of Health's Respite Program, the Partnerships in Community Living (PICL) Program and the DD/MR Waiver Program.

The budget cuts have resulted in the termination of the PICL Program and the loss of \$395,505.00 in services to children and adults on Kauai. The budget reductions to the DD/MR Waiver Program at a minimum will result in the loss of approximately \$162,850.64 in services. The full impact of the loss of DD/MR services is still unknown as families are appealing the budget cuts and service reductions.

The real tragedy however is human suffering and the burden this puts on our families...a single elderly mom with two adults with developmental disabilities that was counting on the PICL funds to provide services to her son for eight weeks while she is in Honolulu with her daughter who needs treatment for breast cancer. She was also counting on MR/DD services for her daughter whose prognosis is about another 4 years.

When You Give Help - You Give Hope



The Arc of Kauai Testimony Re: SB 1679

Page 2

February 9, 2009

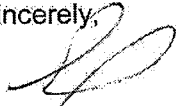
A mother suddenly dies on December 24, 2008 and leaves behind a grieving family that includes an ailing husband and a daughter with developmental disabilities. Her other daughter, moves her sister with a developmental disability into her home but she doesn't even know her sister's social security number or the numerous things involved in caring for her sister. On January 2nd, a letter is received telling her she must make a decision to cut her sister's services which will result in the loss of one day of service by January 12th. She and her husband work and cannot take care of her during the week. On January 3rd, they buried their mom.

While we are fully aware that budget cuts are necessary, we do not believe that the process in which families were asked to make these cuts was fair or equitable throughout the MR/DD Waiver Program. Without clear or full information, most of the families felt intimidated and reduced their services. However, many families have also chosen to exercise their appeals rights and some of the families have joined together in a class action law suit.

Just when we need to really come together to find a solution to this economic crisis, we are at serious odds with each other. We hope that should we be faced with a similar situation, a rate reduction will be instituted so that families can continue to support their loved ones with developmental disabilities.

I humbly ask for your support of SB 1679 and keeping families whole. Should you need more information or have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (808) 245-4132 ext. 0 or 16 or arcklizann@viphawaii.net. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Ellen Ching
Executive Director

February 9, 2009

Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland and Members of the House Services Committee and
Honorable Senator David Y. Ige and Members of the Health Committee
State Capitol, Hawai'i State Senate
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: **SB 1679** Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Dear Chair Chun Oakland and Chair Ige and Members of the Committees:

My name is Dale Szymanski and I
 get services from Department of Health
 on Kauai I need to have help from
 the ~~department~~ ^{community living} program to have dental work
 I strongly support SB 1679.

Sincerely
 Dale Szymanski

February 9, 2009

Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland and Members of the House Services Committee and
Honorable Senator David Y. Ige and Members of the Health Committee
State Capitol, Hawai'i State Senate
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: **SB 1679 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

Dear Chair Chun Oakland and Chair Ige and Members of the Committees:

My name is Archie Lanning and I support
SB 1679 to help with funding for the
Department of Health's DD/MR waiver
Program.

I need help to have medicaid
Waiver PA services and dental
care.

Sincerely,

Archie Lanning

February 9, 2009

Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland and Members of the House Services Committee and
Honorable Senator David Y. Ige and Members of the Health Committee
State Capitol, Hawai'i State Senate
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: **SB 1679 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

Dear Chair Chun Oakland and Chair Ige and Members of the Committees:

My name is Corina Florendo and I received services from the Partnerships in Community Living (PICL) program for my dental work. Without this funding I will not be able to continue my dental work.

I strongly support SB1679 to restore funding to the PICL program.

Sincerely,

Corina Florendo

February 9, 2009

Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland and Members of the House Services Committee and
Honorable Senator David Y. Ige and Members of the Health Committee
State Capitol, Hawai'i State Senate
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: **SB 1679 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

Dear Chair Chun Oakland and Chair Ige and Members of the Committees:

My name is Carleen Yamamoto and I live on
Oahu. My funding is less now and my PA services
on the DD/MR Waiver program has been cut.

I strongly support SB 1679 so I can get
services that I want and need.

Sincerely,

Carleen Yamamoto

February 9, 2009

Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland and Members of the House Services Committee and
Honorable Senator David Y. Ige and Members of the Health Committee
State Capitol, Hawai'i State Senate
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: **SB 1679 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

Dear Chair Chun Oakland and Chair Ige and Members of the Committees:

My name is Robert Stuart and the partnership community
Living (PICL) program has helped me with my medical bills.

I strongly support SB 1679 to give funding to PICL
program I can continue my medical and dental care.

Sincerely,

Robert Stuart

Aloha Committee Chairs and Committee Members,

I am in complete support of SB 1679 to restore funds to programs that support our State's most vulnerable populations. The recent budget reductions for the DD/MR Medicaid Waiver Home and Community Based programs, respite programs, and Partnerships in Community Living programs, have caused chaos, confusion and erased the safety net for many families and participants. Please vote for SB 1679.

Mahalo Nui Loa

Mike

Michael E. Gleason
President & CEO
The Arc of Hilo
1099 Waianuenue Ave.
Hilo, HI 96720
808-935-8535 ext. 201
www.hiloarc.org

February 9, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun-Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

My name is Fae Torres from Ka Lima O Maui. I have been part of Ka Lima O Maui since 1981. This letter is against the cutting of hours from the State of Hawaii Department of Health, Developmental Disabilities Division (DOH-DDD).

I am feeling sad and unhappy and mad about it.

I think that it's not fair for taking away services from us. I do Special Olympic Games like swimming, bocce, and bowling. If I do not have program I can't go.

Without program it is no fun at all. I will miss all my friends I have known for ages.

Please bring back more hours to us all in Ka Lima O Maui. Some of the workers need to work outside jobs because the cuts happened in Hawaii.

The cuts hit everybody, giving big problems and headaches for all of us in Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Fae Torres
Participant at Ka Lima O Maui Waiver Services

ALOHA REHABILITATION

10 February 2009

THE SENATE
TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
STATE OF HAWAII

Testimony for SB 1679
Senate Human Services Committee
Senate Health Committee
Hearing: Tuesday (02-10-09)
1:15PM

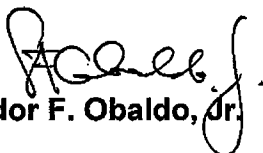
Greetings to all :

I work as service supervisor in one of the agencies that provide waiver service to clients with mental retardation and developmental disabilities.

After receiving the results of the 15% reduction on the Waiver Service of the clients receiving the above services, there are big problems on the part of clients, families, workers and other people involved with their services. For example a client who has only PAB service and parents are working, one of them will stay home to look after the child. Also they remove the respite services to other clients and how will the parents will get some relief if services are cut. Clients attending adult day program with the 15% reduction, they are now home 1-2 days per week which comes to 3-4 days per month. This gravely affects the working parents.

Please help in this matter by restoring services to alleviate the sufferings of the clients, parents and workers.

Thank you very much.


Salvador F. Obaldo, Jr.

Testimony for SB 1679

February 9, 2009

I have been working with persons with Developmental Disabilities and Mental Retardation for seven years now and I feel that these persons do need these services because it assists them as much as possible to learn to be more independent, especially when it involves their health and safety. These services are provided to our consumers by their Circle of Friends and they are here to also assist families and guardians in need due to many of their own personal reasons.

Many of these consumers will be affected by these changes because they may be not familiar with the issues or situations that are arising due to these circumstances. Who will be there to instruct them with the best plan of action to the outcome that they will be expecting? Who will be there to fight for their rights and equality? Not many family, friends, and guardians were aware of these services offered to them.

Our consumers' services are determined by level of care. We have many consumers that have medical issues and behavioral issues to where their level of care may be higher than most. Many consumers know their daily routines and do have difficult times adjusting to new changes brought upon them. Teaching and guiding them adjust to these changes are a lot of work, especially when it comes to having new workers. Not many consumers are okay with having to have new workers because these new workers are strangers to them. Consumers need to feel that security and trust with their workers and it does take a lot of time for that to be accomplished. Our consumers are very much similar to us in that matter. We will not just trust anyone new that comes into our lives instantly. How do we expect our consumers to interact with the community when they are limited to services? How do we expect our consumers to learn and grow with the world?

Due to the budget cuts that took effective February 1, 2009, our consumers have lost services, which has affected their daily and/or weekly routine. I observe changes in their behavior mentally and physically. Their health and safety has been compromised and it is up to their families, friends, caregivers, and direct support workers to assist them in coping with these changes. It is as if their rights, to have their own choices and needs in services, are being limited to each of them. What would you do if you were in this position? Would you feel it is fair? I honestly do not feel that eliminating services or time will benefit our consumers at all. Why? They will eventually regress and lose what was taught to them resulting that all the hard work put in by everyone involved was just a waste.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Rosa

Testimony for SB 1679

I have worked with the DD/MR population for over 8 years, and as an advocate and employee of an agency that works with the DD/MR population, I am deeply concerned with the reductions in services for our consumers. Not to mention the families that are struggling to care for them as well as for themselves and other family members. And what of those individuals who have no family to care for them? What of their quality of life? We are a state that have no institutions, and with these reductions, there is a great risk for creating an institution to place our individuals in that will more likely not give them independence, a greater quality of living, and potentially a rise in behaviors and possibly a decline health.

The services that our agencies and workers provide, gives our DD/MR population a chance at a better quality of living, either on their own with assistance from direct support workers, or caregivers that care for them, or living with their family and receiving assistance in living and working out in the community. Its gives our DD/MR population a sense of normalization and independence. With reduction in services, it may cause a greater decline in opportunities to grow and advance in life. And what of their health and safety?

Families depend on our workers to care for their family and be with them when the families go to work to provide for their loved ones. When there is a decline in services, there will be less supervision to our DD/MR consumers, which leaves family to miss work and stay to care for their loved one thus putting a dent in the family's income. And with less supervision as well to our consumers by trained staff, consumers may start to regress and fall back to old behaviors that have been under control or diminished with constant, regular redirection through use of programs that are targeted to help the individual live normally and safely either for themselves or towards others.

Due to the budget reduction that took effect as of February 1, 2009, many of our consumers have not been able to attend day program or school on a regular basis and have been staying at home, some with no stimulation/activity (decrease in PAB services, no family, family working, lack of one-on-one) some changes in behavior. A particular consumer of mine knows and enjoys going to day program M-F and used to have behaviors that were controlled through redirection when there was no program to go to on the weekends. Now with the reductions and ADH has been lessened, behaviors arise due to consumer staying at home on a day that he/she usually goes to day program, and with their mentality, it is difficult for them to understand why they can't go to day program, when it has already been routine for them to go on certain days.

Another client would lose their PAB services or have them drastically reduced, causing family (which is very limited due to work as well as lack of family members) to not work and adding to the economic hardship.

To summarize, with the budget reductions, the health and safety of our DD/MR populations are at great risk and having them put in institutions is also a great possibility. Quality of life will decrease for our individuals and all that we have done and worked to attain normalization and greater quality of life for them will be diminished. I strongly urge support for our DD/MR population to regain and maintain their quality of life and safety for themselves as well as for others.

Erma L. Padua RN/ADP
2/9/09

**Testimony for SB 1679
Senate Human Services Committee
Senate Health Committee
Hearing: Tuesday (02-10-09)
1:15PM**

**Senate Human Services Committee
Senate Health Committee
Hearing: Tuesday (02-10-09)
1:15PM**

February 09, 2009

Testimony for SB 1679

I've been working with care provider agency specializing in outreach and personal assistance with people who has developmental disabilities and mental retardation for almost two (2) years now. From that time I've come to realize how our direct support workers help with their own clients how they interact with people in the society , being involve in programs and daily activities with self- help and supportive in order to act like normal person.

In a deeper sense I would like to take this opportunity to ask for consideration with regards to budget cuts that took effect on February 01, 2009. Consumers who are wheelchair bounds , blinds with developmental disabilities that can't even stand by their own feet and that they need 24 hours service. If there is enough budget , we can always look after their welfare , maximize our love and care.

Respectfully yours,


J. G. Rjmando

Aloha Habilitation Services Inc.
232 Walker Avenue, Wahiawa, Hi 96797
glangaman@alohahab.com

Testimony for SB 1679
Senate Human Services Committee
Senate Health Committee
Hearing: Tuesday (02-10-09)
1:15PM

February 09, 2009

Being a concerned citizen and been working with people with disabilities for 5 years now, I can safely say that these people we serve really need personal assistance in order to cater the quality of life they deserve. These people are handicapped and that they can't provide the best for themselves with out any assistance.

In a deeper sense, let us consider the blinds, the wheelchair clients and the bedridden individuals, can they be instrumental for themselves without any aid or assistance ? Can they meet what is expected for them if we care them with limits?

Being a caregiver or a Direct Service Worker working with physically handicapped individual, I assist him everyday with his activities of daily living for him to be healthy and enjoy life. I prepare food and do the laundry for him. I set up and clean his room too. He is physically and mentally sound but he can't do it all for himself. In this situation, this person has the right to be served and get assistance and enjoy life without boundaries.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Langaman', is located at the bottom left of the page.

Senate Committees on Health & Human Services

S.B. 1679, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Testimony of Valorie E. Taylor, LBSW

541 Lauiki St. #3

Honolulu HI 96826

February 10, 2009

1:15 p.m. Conference Room 016

I would like to show my support for SB 1679 with the addition of monies earmarked for our Kupuna.

As a Social Worker in the field of Gerontology for the past 20 years, I recognize that a strong family is the backbone of our society which includes our elders. Hawaii's strength comes from it's 'Ohana, we recognize the purpose of our Kupuna is to lead the family and to then be supported by them. We believe that supporting our seniors will also help us to stabilize our economy by preventing premature institutionalization which in turn will increase the state dollars needed to pay for long term care for our Kupuna.

The State's population is growing older faster than any other state, according to DBET. In 2005, 18.7% of Hawaii's population is 60 years of age and older (seventh in the nation), and 28.7% of Hawaii's households has at least one person 65 years of age and older (2nd in the nation). Life expectancy nationally is 77.5 years, while the age for Hawaii is 79.8 years (1st in the nation).

In the 2008 State of Hawaii, Older Adult Needs Assessment, a report prepared for the Joint Legislative Committee on Family Caregiving, those sampled had a higher percentage of individuals with Activities of Daily Living (Eating, Dressing, Personal Hygiene, Bathing, Toileting, Transferring and Mobility) and Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (Prepare Meals, Shopping, Take Medications, Manage Money, Use Telephone, Housework, Use Public Transport) impairments. Over half required assistance with personal care and other ADLs and almost the same amount (51.5%) needed assistance with arranging for their own care.

The Kupuna Care Program started in 1999 with the goal that Hawaii's older adults will have access to affordable and quality - home and community based services that are client centered and family supported allowing them to live with independence and dignity.

Following guidelines set by the state the program offers case management, assisted transportation, home delivered meals, attendant or companion services, chore or homemaker services and personal care. Together with other senior services in Hawaii, the Kupuna Care Programs provide a safety net to our frail, isolated and low income seniors. Without this net of protection our seniors face continued decline, hospitalization and institutionalization.

In 2008 Kupuna Care Services assisted 9,253 individuals in Hawaii. On average a senior may receive 2-3 meals a week (121 meals per year), 1-2 hours per week of personal care (68 hours per year), 1 round trip transport per week (56 one way trips per year), 4 hours of chore service per year or 17 hours of case management per year. As you can see the assistance provided falls short of the need but is enough to supplement other sources of support to help seniors stay at home.

The Kupuna Care Program is cost effective. In 2008 voluntary contributions accounted for almost 16% of the Kupuna Care expenditures. Kupuna Care Programs expand services by utilizing volunteers. For example Lanakila MOW uses 1,344 volunteers who provide 24,543 hours of service delivering meals. The value of this service is \$184,075 and without it a full 2/3 of the meals would not be delivered.

By caring for our Kupuna we are in turn caring for their family members. The economic impact of family caregiving is significant. In *Valuing the Invaluable: The Economic Value of Family Caregiving, 2008 Update*, a study conducted by the AARP Public Policy Institute, found the value of caregiving at \$1.25 billion in Hawaii. The cost of this care continues to rise as the number of individuals needing care increase. If these costs were shifted to health insurers, including Medicare and Medicaid, it would dramatically increase health care costs and this increase would impact us all. We know that family members are impacted by the stress of caregiving, often taking time off work or quitting their jobs. According to the assessment over 25% of Hawaii's households have at least one individual providing informal unpaid care for an adult aged 60 or older with physical or cognitive disabilities. Over 55 percent of these caregivers are employed and of this total, over 26% indicated that their employment was affected by their caregiving responsibilities. Over 77% took time off from work to deal with caregiving responsibilities. Caregivers stated they work less hours, turn down promotions and take leaves of absence. Caregivers who do not have access to adequate relief from their duties and who lack knowledge of the aging process and their reactions to caregiving can suffer from emotional and physical exhaustion. In many situations, such exhaustion can lead to inadequate care, abuse or neglect of the senior and sometimes premature institutionalization.

Evidenced-based studies have reported that early intervention is the key to better outcomes for seniors requiring supportive services to remain in their community. A 2002 study reported in *The Gerontologist*, "Effects of a Community-Based Early Intervention Program on the Subjective Well-Being, Institutionalization, and Mortality of Low-Income Elders", "those elders who received the intervention (case management) had significantly higher subjective well-being and were less likely to be institutionalized or die than those in a comparison group (remained on waiting lists for case management) across the 18-month period." The study states that the implications of the results are that they "make a strong case for the importance of community-based programs to the well-being of elders".

From: Audrey McGauley [mailto:audrey@arcofmaui.org]

Sent: Monday, February 09, 2009 3:59 PM

To: HTHTestimony

Subject: SB 1679 Testimony 2/10/09 @ 1:15pm Committee of Human Services and Health Committee

I am the mother of a 21 year old daughter (Janelle Duncan) who has a diagnoses of MR and seizure disorder. Under the DD/MR waiver contract I provide 40 hours a week of services to Janelle. Janelle's sister also provides 26 hours of service a week to Janelle. Janelle requires 24 hour total care for all of her needs including: grooming, dressing, feeding, oral care, exercise, toileting, bathing, and medication assistance. As her mother, I already provide Janelle with 24 hour care around the clock with the exception of the 26 hours that Janelle's sister works with her. I feel extremely overburdened and exhausted from lack of extra help and support from more Personal Assistants. Janelle's budget was already deficient to begin with which is why more Personal Assistants could not be hired to provide services for her. With the budget reduction Janelle will lose 21 hours of service per week. Janelle's sister will lose 21 hours of paid employment a week and her medical and dental benefits as well. That is a huge cut that Janelle cannot afford. The risk of institutionalization is very real for Janelle should this budget reduction occur. If I should become sick there will be no one to care for Janelle. Quite often I do get sick because of the level of stress I am under to provide good care for my daughter with little or no outside support. If her budget is reduced, Janelle's health and safety will be at risk and on top of that she may have to be institutionalized because I simply may not be able to provide her with the level of support that she needs.

Jeanie Martin, mother and PAB worker of Janelle Duncan

From: Audrey McGauley [mailto:audrey@arcofmaui.org]

Sent: Monday, February 09, 2009 4:01 PM

To: HTHTestimony

Subject: SB 1679 2/10/09 @ 1:15pm Committee on Human Services and Health Committee

I am the mother of an 11 year old daughter Kamalani Eugenio. Kamalani has several developmental disabilities including Pallister-Killian syndrome, seizure disorder, MR, limited eye vision, and limited hearing abilities. Kamalani requires total care 24 hours a day. Currently, the amount of hours allocated in Kamalani's budget are 60 hours a week. Kamalani's auntie Harridene provides 40 hours of service a week. My husband and I both work full time to provide for our other 3 children as well as Kamalani. Kamalani is completely dependent on other people to provide her with care. Kamalani is able to receive the care she needs because Harridene provides her with 40 hours a week of personal assistant services. Harridene often works more hours above and beyond what she gets paid.

Kamamlani's budget was reduced to 29 hours a week. The impact of this cut will jeopardize Kamalani's health and safety because she must have someone to assist her at all times. Kamalani requires total care. She needs assistance in grooming, bathing, toileting, feeding, exercising, and going to appointments. Her personal assistant Harridene takes Kamalani to all of her appointments (i.e. dental, physical therapy, primary care physician) as well as to church and to recreational activities. All these services will be decreased with this cut.

Respectfully submitted by Tara Eugenio

Another disturbing case involves a 42 year old woman with moderate Mental Retardation. She has a history of violent behavior and depression. Her family lives here on Maui, but sees her only once or twice a year. This woman lives in a foster home but her placement is in jeopardy due to her behaviors. We do not have enough behavioral resources on Maui to tap into to provide behavior consulting services. This woman's Waiver services get her out of the home and gives her care givers a break, maintaining her foster placement. Her hours were recently cut from 72 hours to 60 hours per week. Even though it is only 12 hours per week, I fear that this loss will negatively effect her placement and result in this life long Maui resident being moved off island to find support.

I work with another family that may soon be in crisis due to having their hours cut. The mother has Asperger's Syndrome and the 17 year old daughter has Autism. The father works long hours, especially since he had to lay off 10 of the staff where he works due to the economy. While this family has done an excellent job raising their daughter, the mother needs consistent respite from the needs of her daughter so that she can maintain her own disability issues.

I know of another young man who has Down Syndrome. His mother has spent an enormous amount of time helping him to get a job with a work crew and helping him to get a HUD apartment. Her intention was to get him set up with the services he needs to live as independent as possible so that in the event something happens to her, her son is taken care of. With the recent budget cuts however, this young man will not have the necessary supervision he needs and is at risk of having to move into a group home or foster care home.

These are just a few examples of the negative impact recent budget cuts have made here on Maui. If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 808-283-0365, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Melissa King-Hubert
5900 Makena Rd.
Kihei, HI 96753

Testimony for HMS-HTH 2/10/2009 1:15:00 PM SB1679

Conference room: 016

Testifier position: support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Patricia Shillingford

Organization: Individual

Address: 15-2715 Moi Street Pahoia, Hawaii

Phone: 808-965-1048

E-mail: tricias69@hawaiiantel.net

Submitted on: 2/9/2009

Comments:

It is imperative that our citizens with mental and physical disabilities are able to receive the quality of life that the rest of us enjoy. People need to realize that this program does more than just take people to the movies and to the beach. It teaches important life skills and allows people to be more independent and responsible for their care and well being. It gives them a sense of pride and self worth, that many do not feel due to thier disability.

From: Audrey McGauley [mailto:audrey@arcofmaui.org]
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2009 3:51 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: SB 1679 Committee on Human Services and Health Committee 2/10/09 @ 1:15pm

Testimony DD/MR Budget Cuts

This testimony is on behalf of Jennifer Coquia. Jennifer has been diagnosed with Tuberous Sclerosis, Seizure Disorder, Moderate MR, Ashman Syndrome, Mood Disorder, NOS, with reported hallucinations. Jennifer receives PA services at an adult day health program site. She attends Monday thru Friday from 8 am-2pm. Jennifer has many programs she works on during the day. Jennifer is working to increase her counting skills and abilities working with money, she practices healthy eating habits and exercises daily to attain a healthy weight, she is working toward increasing her awareness of the days of week, she is working toward being more independent with completing specific household tasks, and she is also working on having positive social interactions with others which includes decreasing her instances of aggression and not having inappropriate interactions with others. If the 15% budget cut occurs as planned, she would be only able to attend program 4 days of the week. Jennifer would be unable to work on her programs and miss out on the opportunity for community outings with her peers on Friday. Jennifer would miss out on the opportunity to continue working toward her program goals and she would end up staying home thus missing out on valuable learning experiences. Jennifer has made great progress in her short time attending ADH program and the budget cut would adversely affect Jennifer in many aspects of her life.

consideration;

Coquia

2/9/09

Thank you for

Isabelita

It would be an extreme disservice to both Bobby Louis and the other clients who reside in the Lahaina Group Home with him if his current hours are cut. Bobby Louis has a diagnosis of intermittent explosive disorder. This causes him to be unpredictable in regards to verbal and physical abuse at times. Cutting his hours would mean that he would have to spend more time in the group home with the others, which would create an uncomfortable, tense, and possibly dangerous situation for all involved.

As a result of Bobby having more one-on-one PA coverage outside the group home, his behavior has improved with 50% less incidents recorded. It would be a step backward for Bobby and the other clients if he lost any of those hours.

Nancy Dauman Group Home Manager

From: Elizabeth Fronte [mailto:efronte@calicom.net]
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2009 2:49 PM
To: HMSTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov
Cc: Colleen Daly (Hilo SSV)
Subject: Support of SB 1679

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings - Senate Committee on Human Services & Health
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: SB 1679-Relating to the emergency and budget reserve fund

Dear Senators:

I am the mother of five school age children, two of whom have developmental disabilities. One of my boys will need significant care for the rest of his life being that he is unable to care for himself and needs much assistance. Because of their disabilities, my husband and I have changed the way we do everything in order to give all of our children a stable, happy, and healthy environment. As a family with disabled children our activities are limited. What simple things other families take for granted, we struggle through or are unable to do at all. My disabled boys are on a waiver program from Easter Seals on the Big Island of Hawaii. This is wonderful organization which truly works to make these kids lives more normalized and appreciated. These services have been a God Send. I am able to work from home and my husband is able to run a small business where he can have a flexible schedule in order to cope with the demands disabled children bring. With out these services and personal assistance it would turn a difficult situation into a absolute heartbreak.

I applaud the efforts of the State Government to cut spending especially during this economic down turn. As a citizen and taxpayer, I am appalled and angered at the wasteful spending, and many programs can be cut. But it is a moral crime in our society to take funds from those who absolutely cannot care for themselves. We are blessed with a supporting family but I know of many other families that are not so lucky and are so overwhelmed they could not even think about taking the time to write to you - so I am also writing for them.

Another cut to these wonderful programs which give families so much hope, support, and dignity, would be disastrous. We are not a file number, we each have a purpose. My disabled children have changed my life and made me a much better person - they truly are a blessing. I strongly support SB 1679 which makes an emergency appropriation form the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I support appropriations to restore lost funding for the Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL) Programs. You must not lose this opportunity. Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Fronte
(808)968-6386
efronte@sonic.net

Hello Representatives,

I respectfully write my testimony to all of you to ask that you support SB1679. Although I myself did not participate in Healthy Start, I know many of my friends and family members have over the years and have learned so much about how to be the best parents they can be and protect their children from harm. I believe that this program really helps parents learn how to raise their children in a safe and loving home.

I have an understanding of how difficult it is to raise children with little community support and family support, and know that I myself would have benefited from this program had it been offered to me when my children were born. You see, I am a single, widowed mother of three teenage boys. My husband passed away when my children were 3, 5, & 7 years old due to a substance abuse problem. As a family, we struggled with his addiction and I felt I had nowhere to turn. I didn't know what to do and longed for help everyday. I always think to myself, what would it had been like if we had a program like Healthy Start in our lives at the time? (Then it wasn't a statewide program.) Would they have been able to help us? Would my husband still be alive? Would he had finally been offered the help he needed to recover from his addiction?

Unfortunately, we were forced to endure not only through my husband's addiction when he was alive, but also through the very hard road we traveled after his death. It is so hard being a single parent, let alone a single parent who knows little about how to get help when all seems to be crumbling around you. I consider myself to be one of the lucky ones. I had enough sense to stay away from drugs, although I am not a perfect mother I never believed in violence, and I did all I could to ensure I stayed off welfare and got an education. Most are not as lucky as I am, as we see and hear about it in the news and through our family and friends every day.

So, once again I ask that you help to keep Healthy Start in Hawaii and pass this bill to help fund the program. Our 'Ohana need it now more than ever before. With the unstable economy and jobs lost everyday, the risk of child abuse and neglect will rise. Our child protective services cannot handle the caseloads they have now, let alone the likelihood of increased reports because this prevention program ceases to exist. I don't want to see a program such as this disappear because we chose to beautify our lagoons, rather than invest the dollars in our children when money is tight.

If we lose Healthy Start in the midst of a tight budget, then we lose more than just a prevention program. Our 'Ohana deserve better than to be prioritized such a way.

I sincerely appreciate your support and hope for a positive outcome for Healthy Start,

Ms. J McKeague
A concerned citizen

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WRITTEN ONLY

TESTIMONY BY GEORGINA K. KAWAMURA
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
STATE OF HAWAII
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON HUMAN SERVICES AND HEALTH
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 1679

February 10, 2009

RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Senate Bill No. 1679 appropriates unspecified amounts from the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund for Fiscal Year 2010 and Fiscal Year 2011 to the Departments of Health, Human Services, and Education to maintain levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health and public welfare.

We are opposed to this bill. Rather than using the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund to supplement general funds, in light of the critical budget shortfall facing the State, we believe it is more appropriate to use the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund to replace general funds. Accordingly, in Senate Bill No. 882, we have proposed to use \$60 million from the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund to replace general funds that are currently appropriated for the health care payments program in Fiscal Year 2009. In addition, in Senate Bill No. 883, we have proposed to use another \$15 million from the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund to replace general fund appropriations for the health care payments program in Fiscal Year 2010. This will leave the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund with projected balances of \$6.2 million, \$3.5 million and \$15.7 million in Fiscal Years 2009, 2010 and 2011, respectively.