

P.O. Box 1169
Waianae, Hi 96792
E-mail kananikb2@hawaii.rr.com

Phone (808) 426-4647
Cellular: (808) 783-9302
Fax (808) 696-1654

Kanani Kaaiawahia Bulawan

March 17, 2009

Rep. R. Cabanilla, Chair Housing Committee
Rep. P. Chong, Vice Chair Housing Committee

LATE TESTIMONY

Hearing: March 18, 2009, 9:30am Conf. Rm: 325

RE: SB 754: RELATING TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair and committee members:

My name is Kanani Kaaiawahia Bulawan, a resident of the Waianae Coast, a retired executive director of a non-profit organization primarily working with homeless individuals and families, and a homeowner.

My years working in the field of homelessness and housing allow me the opportunity to provide you comments on SB754. While I appreciate the intent of this bill, I do not believe that another study of the problem is what is needed to solve Hawaii's housing crisis. Enough studies and recommendations have been designed over the past few decades unique to Hawaii's housing processes, market, and climate. Why are we still wasting time with studies when research indicates the primary issue is the high cost of land, materials and labor not to mention the permitting requirements and restrictions.

Again studies have been done, indicators have been identified and action plans are waiting for execution. The issue is when will the cost factors be addressed?

Thank you for allowing me to share my comments. If you have any questions feel free to call me at 682-4673 or 783-9302.

Mahalo,

Kanani Kaaiawahia Bulawan