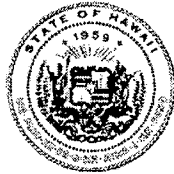


SB2276

SD1

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



BARBARA E. ARASHIRO
ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY
1002 NORTH SCHOOL STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 17907
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Statement of
Barbara E. Arashiro
Hawaii Public Housing Authority
Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

February 19, 2010 11:00 A.M.
Room 016, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of
SB 2276
RELATING TO INTOXICATING LIQUOR

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) supports S.B. 2276, which prohibits possession of open liquor containers in common areas of public housing projects. This bill would improve the ability of HPHA to control disruptive activity within our communities by having police cite or arrest people in possession of open containers of liquor.

Disruptive behavior fueled by drinking, mainly on the part of non-residents and visitors, is a problem in some housing projects. Currently the police are unable to arrest someone holding a container of liquor unless the police observe the person putting the container to their mouth, or unless a witness is willing to testify. In meetings with residents and police this enhancement of the current law prohibiting consumption in public areas was requested in order to improve the atmosphere and maintain order for residents.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 1:08 PM
To: JGO Testimony
Cc: jillf2184@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2276 on 2/19/2010 11:00:00 AM

Testimony for JGO 2/19/2010 11:00:00 AM SB2276

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jill Friedman
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: jillf2184@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/17/2010

Comments:
I oppose this bill in its current form.

I especially oppose the part that states possession of an open container would be considered evidence of consuming its contents. There are reasons a person could be carrying a container without drinking from it. The person could be cleaning up containers that were left outside by someone else, or could be carrying it to another area--such as a residence--to consume it legally there. Unless a person is seen consuming the intoxicating liquor they should not be charged with a violation.

Another problem is the part relating to common areas in public housing projects. As a tenant in public housing, I am aware of a unfortunate practice HPHA has of officially referring to all outdoor areas as common areas, even those areas that are obviously part of a unit--such as a patio or fenced yard--and areas such as yards and gardens that are used exclusively by one household and are perceived by all tenants to be a part of the household and not a common area. The police also recognise these outdoor areas as part of the unit and will arrest people for trespassing if they are in these areas without the tenant's permission. Drinking should not be prohibited in those areas because they are not actually common areas and everyone knows it. They are actually the same as patios and yards in a private home--rented or owned--and should be treated as such.

For these reasons I am opposed to this bill.

**TO: The Honorable Senator Brian Taniguchi , (Chair)
The Honorable Senator Dwight Takamine , (Vice Chair)
and Members of the Judiciary Committee**

**DATE: Friday, February 19, 2010
11:00 AM Room 016**

RE: SB 2276,SD1 Relating to Public Housing

POSITION: STRONG SUPPORT

My name is Fetu Kolio, I am the Tenants Association President, of Mayor Wright Homes, one of Hawaii's State Public Housing Projects . Also I serve as a Member of the Kalihi-Palama Neighborhood Board No.15, I am testifying today in Strong Support of SB-2276,SD1. As a Public Housing Resident and a Citizens Patrol Member, of our housing complex we are the eyes and ears of our community .

SB-2276,SD1 would be a very helpful tool for the Honolulu Police Department, to work together with (H.P.H.A) the Hawaii Public Housing Authority, to put together strategies to help keep public housing a safe place to live with our families.

We have Drug deals and Drug use on public housing property, or on city streets around public housing, we have shootings, assaults on tenants by unwanted gang members who are not paying rent for a Unit to live in public housing. And also robberies assaults on community residents that live around public housing.

Thank you for hearing this bill, please help restore safety for our families pass SB 2276,SD1.

**Mayor Wright Tenants Association: (President)
Fetu T. Kolio**

**TO: The Honorable Senator Brian Taniguchi ,
The Honorable Senator Dwight Takamine ,
and Members of the Judiciary Committee**

**Chair
Vice Chair**

**DATE: Friday, February 19, 2010
11:00 PM Room 016**

RE: SB-2276,SD1 Relating to Public Housing

POSITION: STRONG SUPPORT

My name is Ene Augafa , and as a resident of public housing we need this bill SB-2276, because public drinking is the main reason why we safety issues at State Public Housing we pay rent to enjoy the accommodations of our home.

SB-2276,SD1 would help put a safety plan for tenants by the property owner (H.P.H.A.) because we pay rent to live and appreciate having a place that we call our home at Mayor Wright Homes, public housing .

We have gangs , drugs , shootings , also attacks on Community Residents and tenants of Mayor Wright Housing, Public housing.

Thank you for hearing this bill and my testimony please help pass SB-2276,SD1.

**Ene Augafa,
Mayor Wright Homes.**

**TO: The Honorable Senator Brian Taniguchi , (Chair)
The Honorable Senator Dwight Takamine , (Vice Chair)
and Members of the Judiciary Committee**

**DATE: Friday, February 19, 2010
11:00 pm Room 016**

RE: SB-2276,SD1 Relating to Public Housing

POSITION: STRONG SUPPORT

My name is Lester Lester , and a resident of Public housing, Mayor Wright Homes. I want to thank this Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations for hearing this bill SB-2276,SD1. I strongly Support that criminal trespass should be amended to the first degree to help the Hawaii Public Housing Authority, to make sure that safety of residents of public housing and also community residents be a priority .

SB-2276,SD1 would help stop the ongoing issues on assaults and robberies on residents that live in or around public Housing, Mayor Wright Housing. And as a tool for the Honolulu Police Department in fighting crime.

We have drugs, and gangs members the deal them on State Public Housing Property, Mayor Wright Homes.

Please help bring safety to all residents in our communities pass SB-2276,SD1 and for hearing my testimony.

**Lester Lester
Mayor Wright Homes.**

TO: THE HONORABLE SENATOR BRAIN TANIGUCHI (CHAIR)
AND MEMBERS OF THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

DATE : FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2010
11:00 PM ROOM 016

RE : SB-2276,SD1 RELATING TO PUBLIC HOUSING

POSITION : STRONG SUPPORT

MY NAME IS TIKIN NAUR , I AM A RESIDENT OF MAYOR
WRIGHT HOMES , ONE OF THE PUBLIC HOUSING IN THE STATE OF HAWAII
I WOULD LIKE THIS BILL SB-2276,SD1 TO HELP ALL RESIDENTS THAT PAY
RENT TO LIVE IN A UNIT IN PUBLIC HOUSING .

SB-2276,SD1 WOULD ESTABLISH PRIORITY UNDER THE PUBLIC
HOUSING AUTHORITY (H.P.H.A) TO PUT TOGETHER A SAFETY PLAN FOR
PEOPLE AS IF THE IMPORTANCE IS THE SAME AS FOR A BUILDING OR
ANY PROPERTY OF (STATE PUBLIC HOUSING) .

PLEASE HELP PASS SB-2276,SD1 TO RESTORE THE QUALITY OF LIFE
TO ALL THAT LIVE IN OR AROUND (HAWAII STATE PUBLIC HOUSING) .

TIKIN NAUR

MAYOR WRIGHT HOMES.

**TO: The Honorable Senator Brain Taniguchi ,
The Honorable Senator Dwight Takamine ,
and members of the Judiciary Committee**

**Chair
Vice Chair**

**DATE: Friday, February 19, 2010
11:00 pm Room 016**

RE: SB 2276,SD1 Relating To Public Housing

POSITION: STRONG SUPPORT

As a resident of public housing , I Randy Nicky strongly encourage the passage of this bill SB-2276,SD1 that amends criminal trespass in the first degree it would help deter the criminal elements that use our State Public Housing for their criminal activities .

SB-2276,SD1 can help alleviate or eliminate gang members that use and deal drugs on public housing property, and also on city streets that around Mayor Wright Housing, and block parties types of public drinking.

To help with a solution we would need to start with-in , and that's the property owners responsibility to support any measures to help keep the peace in our communities by having a safety plan, because it should never be the tenants responsibility , because we are not the manager, and that the managers have all the authority .

Thank you for letting me testify please pass bill SB-2276,SD1.

**Randy Nicky
MAYOR WRIGHT HOMES.**