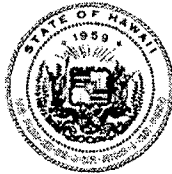


SB2278

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 GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

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

In consideration of
S.B. 2278
RELATING TO PUBLIC HOUSING

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) supports S.B. 2278, which amends criminal trespass in the first degree to include a person who enters or remains unlawfully in or upon the premises of a public housing project after reasonable request or warning to leave by housing authorities. After consultation with the Attorney General's Office, we request modifications in the language of the bill in order to fully cover the situations which present security problems in public housing.

Our suggested amendment is attached. We have removed the exception for "invited guests" because, as written, it would include persons who have in the past been threatening or abusive or who have caused property damage, and have been removed from the premises by police. Under the current language such persons would not be in violation until they actually commit another offense or injure someone again. These repeat offenders have no business returning to the property.

The safety and security of the residents of public housing is of paramount importance to HPHA; this bill would provide an important tool in ensuring that security. Current statutes do not give law enforcement agencies and HPHA the legal authority to deal effectively with some situations where unauthorized persons enter public housing residential premises and do damage to property or otherwise prevent the quiet enjoyment of their homes by residents.

Once the bill is passed law enforcement agencies would be authorized to cite or arrest unauthorized persons who present a danger to the residents and have no legitimate purpose for being on the property.

**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 2278,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-2278,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-2278,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-2278,SD1.

**Randy Nicky
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-2278,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-2278,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-2278,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-2278,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-2278,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-2278,SD1 TO HELP ALL RESIDENTS THAT PAY
RENT TO LIVE IN A UNIT IN PUBLIC HOUSING .

SB-2278,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-2278,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 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 2278, 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-2278,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-2278,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 2278,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-2278,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-2278, because safety is the main reason why all State Public Housing Tenants, pay rent \$\$\$\$.

SB-2278,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-2278,SD1.

**Ene Augafa,
Mayor Wright Homes.**