

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



DARWIN L. D. CHING
DIRECTOR

COLLEEN Y. LaCLAIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

SAM AIONA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 420
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
www.hawaii.gov/labor
Phone: (808) 586-8675 / Fax: (808) 586-8685
Email: dliir.ocs@hawaii.gov

Testimony offering Comments on SB2466

Good Morning Chairs Yamane and Tsuji, and thank you for the opportunity to testify. The Office of Community Services would like to make clear we are in full support of the intent of the measure; however, we feel it is unnecessary at this time.

Through conversations with other Departments and organizations, we believe we have garnered the support, funding, and expertise to accomplish this program outside of a statutory mandate. Our discussions have led us to believe there exists a strong will to implement this program in the State. Furthermore, a mandate may hamper our flexibility to administratively structure the program in the branch or Department best fitting our yet-to-be developed State Plan.

We can assure you staff is in agreement this is an excellent opportunity for the State, and we will put forth our best effort to secure funding under this program from the United States Department of Agriculture. Finally, we have also been assured that if we are to be awarded this competitive grant, our funding mechanism is guaranteed. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.