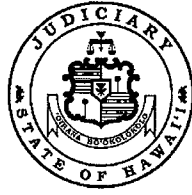


SB 2469



The Judiciary, State of Hawaii

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Human Services

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair

The Honorable Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair

The Honorable Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 4, 2010, 2:15 p.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 016

by

W. Tom Mick

Policy and Planning Department Head

Bill No. and Title: Senate Bill No. 2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund.

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

Judiciary's Position:

The Judiciary strongly supports Section 31 of Senate Bill No. 2469, which appropriates \$2.7 million from the State Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund to the Judiciary for domestic violence services. Legislative actions last year to reduce the Judiciary's FY 2010 budget base by \$11.5 million or 7.6 % relative to FY 2009 and eliminate 79 positions or 4% of the Judiciary's permanent workforce resulted in significant cuts in funding for domestic violence services by the First, Second, Third, and Fifth Circuits, as well as the various treatment courts. Some programs were eliminated while others were significantly reduced. These cuts have led to fewer services being available and fewer clients served, and longer waits to access services. They have also contributed to the loss of 10 or more staff in direct service to victims and perpetrators of domestic violence, resulting in a decrease in parenting groups, crisis intervention services, victim



Senate Bill No. 2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund
Senate Committees on Human Services / Health / Judiciary and
Government Operations

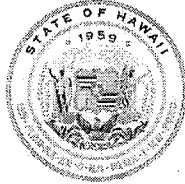
Thursday, February 4, 2010

Page 2

support, and batterers treatment; a 14% to 18% reduction in cases closed, cases opened, temporary restraining order (TRO) clients served at various sites, and victim services delivered; a 20% to 40% reduction in safety planning services and services to children exposed to domestic violence; an increase in wait time for batterers trying to enter services from one to two weeks in the best case, and two to five months in the worst case, which means more untreated batterers residing in communities, decreasing the safety of their victims and the community in general; a decrease in the number of sites available to obtain services for batterers, victims, or children – on the Neighbor Islands this often means that services are unavailable unless the person seeking services has access to a car and is able to drive many miles; increases in requirements and fees for fee-for-services, making programs unavailable to those who cannot pay; a decrease in supervised visitations to 1.5 hours a week per family; a reduction in staff work hours; and waitlists for almost all services, including waitlists for TRO support and filings. Court statistics show that from FY 2008 to FY 2009, domestic abuse/protective order filings increased by 12%, even as the availability and extent of domestic violence services have been decreasing.

The Judiciary takes no position on Sections 32 through 36 which appropriate from the State Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund the following amounts to be expended by the Judiciary: \$400,000 to Volunteer Legal Services Hawai'i to provide pro bono legal services for indigent persons, \$720,000 to Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i to provide general legal services, \$282,200 to Hawai'i Family Law Center to provide services to obtain TROs, \$254,565 to Catholic Charities Hawai'i to provide intra-familial sex assault services, and \$320,000 to Children's Alliance of Hawaii to provide child sex assault services. It is likely that the identified funding would be helpful to these programs, and that these organizations provide valuable services to Hawaii's citizens and have suffered along with many other organizations as a result of the economic situation in Hawai'i. However, the Judiciary's concern is to ensure that because the funding amounts identified constitute an addition to the original Judiciary budget request contained in Senate Bill No. 2148, their addition does not come with a corresponding reduction to any items already included in our base budget request. It should also be mentioned that while Senate Bill No. 2469 does not indicate whether these items would be funded as grants-in-aid or through purchase of service (POS) contracts, POS contract funding would require a bidding process and there can be no assurance that the designated organizations would be the low bidder and awarded the contracts.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2469.



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 4, 2010

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services
and
The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
Senate Committee on Health
and
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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

**SUBJECT: SB 2469– RELATING 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 Department of Health (DOH) or Department of Human Services (DHS).

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS SB 2469**. The purpose of this 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.

All the programs included in the bill address the vital needs of specific target groups/areas (aging, child care, dental, disability, domestic violence, healthy start, hospitals, housing, uninsured, etc.). Each target group/area is equally important and uniquely defined as vulnerable and deserving of priority status in determining what to include in the State's budget.

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland
The Honorable David Y. Ige
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi
Page 2
February 4, 2010

The Council brings to your attention the following sections of the bill that address individuals with DD and their families:

1. **Page 2, lines 14-16: DD Services.** According to the DD Division, under the current level of waiver funding available, the Division is meeting the basic health and safety needs of participants. As such, there is no shortfall anticipated for FY 2010.

Recommendation: Delete statement, "...and a \$5,400,000 shortfall for developmental disabilities services in the current fiscal year."

2. **Page 3, Section 2, lines 18-21: Respite Services.** The 2009 Legislature designated \$376,953 out of Tobacco Settlement funds for the DOH Respite program. This amount was derived from the remaining balance of the respite budget (\$176,953) after budget reductions and adjustments by the Legislature and Governor, and \$200,000 restored by the House in the budget bill (HB 200 HD1).

DOH determined that it was inappropriate to use the Tobacco Settlement Special Fund for respite services. As of June 30, 2009, the DOH Respite Program was terminated. We are in the process of gathering data from programs to determine the impact of the termination of the program. The program provided respite to families caring for a family member who is: 1) an infant or toddler three years of age or younger with a developmental delay, 2) a child or adult up to age 21 years with a serious or terminal illness, 3) a child with a serious emotional disability, 4) a child or adult with a developmental disability, or 5) an adult with a serious mental illness.

DD Division has been working with individuals and families to access respite services through the waiver program for individuals with DD/Mental Retardation. Respite is available for individuals through the waiver if they are eligible. To receive any waiver service, an individual must be Medicaid eligible. However, for individuals who are not Medicaid eligible, there is no other source to receive respite services other than what was being provided through the DOH Respite Program.

Recommendation: Based on FY 2009 expenditure reports for respite services, we recommend that the appropriation amount be amended to \$350,000.

- 3. Page 5, Section 7, lines 11-14: DD Medicaid Waiver Program.** In February 2009, DD Division implemented a 15 percent reduction in participants' services in order to sustain their system of supports and maintain services. After undergoing an appeals process, some individuals received no reduction in services and others experienced a greater than 15 percent reduction (20-60 percent) of their authorized service level. DD Division conducted an assessment of health and safety of all waiver recipients, and reportedly are meeting basic health and safety needs of its recipients.

Based on expenditures for the first half of FY 2010, it is our understanding that DD Division will be able to operate within their current budget for the remaining fiscal year. The enhanced Federal Medicaid Assistance Percentage (FMAP) rate for the waiver program provided through the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act has been a significant factor for DD Division to be able to operate within its budget. Extension of the FMAP increase through June 2011 is pending before Congress. We have not heard or are aware of any plans for further reductions in DD Division's budget. However, should the FMAP increase end before June 30, 2011, and/or there is another round of budget reductions, DD Division may experience a shortfall. It is not known at this time as to whether or not, or to what degree, a shortfall would occur.

Recommendation: Amend this section by deleting the \$7,000,000 appropriation in the bill to reflect a blank appropriation amount. We would like to retain this section as a safety measure in the event during the course of the legislative session, DD Division's budget status changes.

- 4. Page 6, Section 9, lines 1-4: Partnerships in Community Living Program (PICL).** The 2009 Legislature designated \$700,000 out of Tobacco Settlement special funds for the program. DOH determined that it was inappropriate to use Tobacco Settlement funds for PICL. Consequently, the PICL program has been terminated as of June 30, 2009.

PICL was provided to individuals: 1) who were pending determination for Medicaid waiver services; 2) were Medicaid eligible, but the Medicaid waiver or other programs do not cover the service or item; or 3) were ineligible for Medicaid or any other federally reimbursed services, but eligible to receive community services. For individuals who are not eligible for Medicaid or any other federally reimbursed services, PICL was their only source of support. 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.

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland
The Honorable David Y. Ige
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi
Page 4
February 4, 2010

Recommendation: Keep the appropriation of \$500,000 as indicated in this section.

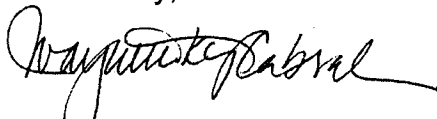
5. **Page 11, Section 27, lines 3-6: Adult Dental Services.** The Council cannot emphasize enough the importance of comprehensive dental care services that include preventive, restorative, and emergency services for people with DD. We are all aware of how dental health, or the lack thereof, affects all aspects (emotional, psychological, and social) of our lives. Many individuals can share with you the experience of having a tooth extracted or acquiring serious health problems because necessary dental services were not available due to termination of the adult dental benefit coverage. People with DD have felt this effect to an even greater extent. Due to medical conditions related to their disability and the frequent prescription of medication, preventative and restorative dental care becomes an essential and cost effective service.

Dental care has been identified as one of the major health concerns, especially for individuals with DD. Compounding the challenges is the lack of dentists in several Neighbor Island areas and access to and resistance of dentists to serve Medicaid and QUEST clients. Clearly, it is vital to the health of participants of Medicaid and QUEST that dental care services, other than emergency dental services, become available.

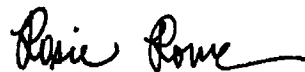
Recommendation: Retain the blank appropriation amount until information is available to reflect an appropriate amount.

Thank you for your consideration of the above recommendations and for the opportunity to provide testimony in **strong support of SB 2469.**

Sincerely,

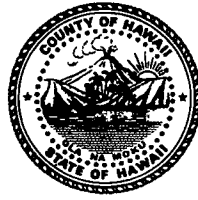


Waynette K.Y. Cabral
Executive Administrator



Rosie Rowe
Chair

William P. Kenoi
Mayor



Alan R. Parker
Executive on Aging

County of Hawai'i

OFFICE OF AGING

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February 2, 2010

TESTIMONY TO:

**Senate Committees on Human Services, Health and Judiciary and
Government Operations**

**Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Brian Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Dwight Takamine, Vice Chair**

Subject: **S.B. NO. 2469
"RELATING TO EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND"
February 4, 2010
2:15 p.m.
Conference Room 016**

Honorable Chairs and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on S.B. No. 2469. I am Alan Parker, Director of the Hawaii County Office of Aging. One of the safety net programs included in this bill is the Aging and Disability Resource Project (ADRC), listed under SECTION 6. This bill supports the ADRC Project development and coordination that are currently underway.

The Hilo ADRC is a physical site that is co-located by nine major service providers and programs serving the elderly and people with disabilities. Federal grants recently obtained through the State Executive Office on Aging do not adequately cover the critical staffing for our demonstration project. The \$130,000 for Hawaii County contained in S.B. 2469 covers personnel costs for two critical positions, namely our ADRC Coordinator and Aging & Disability Resource Specialist positions. These two positions are at the heart and soul of our intake, assessment, and care coordination functions of the pilot project that is still being demonstrated and evaluated.



February 2, 2010
S.B. No. 2469
Page 2

The Aging and Disability Resource Center concept is indeed a noble and needed service empowering individuals to make informed choices and streamline access to long term support which includes in-home care, community based programs and institutional services such as nursing homes and other programs that are designed to help the elderly and individuals with disabilities including the younger adult population. These outcomes, however, can only be achieved through highly skilled and knowledgeable intake staff capable of conducting professional assessments to ensure appropriate and effective counsel and referral. We have two such individuals on board that are working very hard to establish effective protocols, policies and procedures. Funding is needed to enable full implementation and evaluation of the entire intake, assessment, care coordination, follow up and evaluation processes of our demonstration project.

Thank you for providing me the opportunity to testify.

Alan R. Parker
Hawaii County Executive on Aging
Aging & Disability Resource Center
1055 Kinoole Street, Suite 101
Hilo, Hawaii 96720-3872
(808) 961-8600
arparker@hcoahawaii.org



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

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair

Date: Feb. 4, 2010 - Conference Room 016 - 2:15 p.m.

Re: **SB 2469 RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY BUDGET AND RESERVE FUND**

Chairs Chun Oakland, Ige, and Taniguchi, 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 150,000 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 2469, especially with regard to funding for Kupuna Care.

The Kupuna Care program addresses the need for affordable home and community based long-term care services that help people remain at home for as long as possible. This program helps individuals who fall within the “gap group” – people who cannot afford to pay for services but do not qualify for Medicaid. Kupuna Care provides an important safety net that can prevent older adults from going into poverty due to the high cost of long-term care.

Hawaii has one of the nation’s fastest growing elderly populations. This fact alone points to an immediate need to expand home and community based services to support family caregiving and aging-in-place. The value of the services that family caregivers provide to their loved ones by way of deferred paid caregiving and institutionalization helps to control state and federal costs. In Hawaii, approximately 115,000 family caregivers provide personal care for an estimated total of 107 million hours, resulting in an estimated economic value for caregiving of approximately \$875 million per year (Arno, 1997). The economic value of care provided by family members and friends far surpasses what is spent on home health care and nursing home care combined (Arno, 1999).

The base budget for Kupuna Care from Hawaii's general fund has remained flat at \$4,854,350 since 2002 and has not kept pace with the need for services due to Hawaii's rapidly expanding aging population. The Legislature appropriated additional funds in 2007 and 2008 to accommodate the inadequacy of funding and to reduce the waitlist for Kupuna Care services. However, those were limited to those years only, and the 2008 funds were not released by the Governor.

In summary, Kupuna Care services help to keep costs down. The state cannot financially afford to replace family caregivers. The support provided to these family caregivers through Kupuna Care is the most efficient and effective cost savings to the state. Kupuna Care services have already been cut this fiscal year after a no-growth budget period of seven years since 2002. At the same time, the aging population needing care has grown. We believe the state would end up paying more prohibitive costs in long-term care with existing and further reductions in Kupuna Care services.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2469.



Senate HMS/HTH/JGO
Thurs, Feb 4
2:15pm
Room 016

National Association of Social Workers

Hawaii Chapter

February 2, 2010

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Members of the Senate Human Services Committee
Senator David Ige, Chair
Members of the Senate Health Committee
Senator Brian Taniguchi, Chair
Members of the Senate Judiciary and Government Operations Committee

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

RE: SB 2469 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund- **SUPPORT**

Chair Chun Oakland, Ige Taniguchi and members of the Human Services, Health and Judiciary and Government Operations 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 2469 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund.**

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. By doing this the state is able to leverage its dollars with private sector dollars and provide services to the people of our state. However, now when the state is in a fiscal crisis, the state is cutting funds to those private contracts. This will ultimately result in dismantling many of the programs that the state partnered with.

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 2469.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



HAWAII DISABILITY RIGHTS CENTER

900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1040, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone/TTY: (808) 949-2922 Toll Free: 1-800-882-1057 Fax: (808) 949-2928

E-mail: info@hawaiidisabilityrights.org Website: www.hawaiidisabilityrights.org

THE SENATE THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 2010

**Committee on Human Services
Committee on Health
Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations**

**Testimony in Support of S.B. 2469
Relating to The Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

**Thursday, February 4, 2010, 2:15 P.M.
Conference Room 016**

Chair Chun-Oakland, Chair Ige, Chair Taniguchi , and Members of the Committees:

I am Louis Erteschik, Staff Attorney at the Hawaii Disability Rights Center, and am testifying in support of this bill.

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 these times, our office is 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. We also currently are in the midst of representing many families who are affected by the cuts experienced at the Developmental Disabilities Division. We are pleased therefore to see funds appropriated to these programs. We believe that the circumstances facing the state justify the use of these funds for these purposes.

We are also pleased to see funds included for respite care. Caregiver burnout is a well recognized phenomenon in these cases. This is where respite care proves to be

invaluable as it provides an opportunity for the caregiver to either perform other essential chores or simply avail themselves of a brief time out so they can rejuvenate themselves. This money is extremely well spent from a quality of life and economic perspective. Respite care is an essential component of the long term care spectrum.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

SECOH

708 Palekaua St. • Honolulu, Hawaii 96816 • Telephone 734-0233

DATE: February 3, 2010

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair of the Senate Human Services Committee
and
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair of the Senate Health Committee
and
Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair of the Senate Judiciary & Government Operations Committee

FROM: **Sandra J. Yoro, Executive Director, SECOH**
SECOH Locations: Districts 19, 28, 34, 39, 41, 43

HEARING: SB 2469 Thursday, February 4, 2010 at 2:15 p.m.

RE: **Support of Senate Bill 2469**
Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

SECOH (Special Education Center of Hawaii), is a private, nonprofit organization with a mission to provide services and supports to people with developmental disabilities, or acquired disabilities due to aging or head injuries.

We strongly **SUPPORT S.B. 2469**, Relating to The Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund, which provides appropriations for various "safety net" services including the State of Hawaii Department of Health-Developmental Disabilities Division (DOH-DDD) Developmentally Disabled/Mental Retardation (DD/MR) Medicaid Waiver Service program, the DOH Respite program and the DOH Partnerships in Community Living (PICL) program. **These programs were eliminated or reduced last year with no restoration funding provided last session leaving people with severe intellectual and physical disabilities and their families to fend for themselves as they watch the programs designed to protect them destroy them.**

The elimination or reduction in services has left the majority of our customers without adult day care services 1-2 days per week and without personal assistance services for up to 20 hours per week. Family members and primary care providers have had to reduce their own work schedules or hire privately to care for their family members causing them economic hardship in already economically challenging times. **Consequently many of our family members and primary care providers albeit devastating are considering out-of-home residential placement of their loved ones into long-term care facilities, which this program was designed to prevent.**

Hawaii's citizens with developmental disabilities due to no fault of their own are an extremely intellectually, physically, and economically vulnerable population. These programs are vital to the survival and inclusion of people with developmental disabilities in our society. Our disability service sector has worked tirelessly for the last twenty years to build the DD/MR home and community based waiver program so we could close the state institution Waimano Training School and Hospital and support people with disabilities to have meaningful lives in an inclusive society. **We must not put the lives of these people in jeopardy of institutionalization again.** We have made too much progress to throw it all away.

An appropriation to restore these programs and services at previously prescribed levels will ensure basic health and safety protections and allow us to continue our mission in support of full and meaningful lives for people with developmental disabilities. **I respectfully request and encourage your committees to PASS Senate Bill 2469 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund.**



Building Independence for Challenged Lives

PRESIDENT & CEO
Masahiro E. Tsuji

Lanakila Rehabilitation Center, Inc.
DBA Lanakila Pacific

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State of Hawaii
Senate Committee on Human Services and Public Housing
The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Hawaii State Legislature

Senate Committee on Health
The Honorable David Ige, Chair
The Honorable Josh Green, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations
Committee
The Honorable Brian Taniguchi, Chair
The Honorable Dwight Takamine, Vice Chair

February 4, 2010; 2:15p
Room 016

SB 2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Good afternoon, Chairs Chun Oakland, Ige, and Taniguchi and Human Services, Health, and Judiciary & Government Operations Committees. Lanakila Pacific is in strong support of measure SB 2469. As a nonprofit organization that serves thousands of seniors and people with disabilities each year, we understand that these two groups are especially vulnerable populations in our community. The prior budget reductions have had a great impact on our population and have affected every aspect of their daily lives.

From observation and frequent discussions with the participants, the recent budget reductions have caused many participants unnecessary anxiety and missed opportunities.

The source of their anxiety is from not understanding why their schedules change each month and if the amount of days that they currently attend will continue to decrease. The day program is an important resource to this population and provides them with many unique learning experiences, a feeling of stability and camaraderie, life skills, volunteer opportunities, community integration and many other opportunities. The participants have reported that they do not always get these opportunities when they don't attend an established and secure day program.





Building Independence for Challenged Lives

PRESIDENT & CEO
Marian E. Tsuji

Lanakila Rehabilitation Center, Inc.
DBA Lanakila Pacific

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If another budget reduction were to occur, this population would experience a major setback. This is a distinctive time, in which people with disabilities are beginning to have the same experiences that 'typical' people do. To limit their resources, by ordering another budget reduction, would be a step backwards for a population that has so much potential and the desire to be part of mainstream society.

The budget cut has boiled down to limited opportunities for persons with disabilities in all aspects of daily living. Most importantly is the domino effect of budget cut to chances of participants learn more about job training, self advocacy and community inclusion.

Respectfully submitted by Marian E. Tsuji, President and CEO





GREGORY HOUSE PROGRAMS

Hawaii's Statewide HIV/AIDS Housing and Support Services Provider

SB 2469

Relating to The Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Hearing: February 4, 2010 – 2:15 PM

Conference Room 016

Board of Directors

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Jaimie Kahale

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Guy Merola

Donald Munro

Francine Palama

Kelly Sanders

Gennitt Simons

Les Ueoka

Leighton Yuen

Dear Honorable Legislators:

Thank you for moving this Senate Bill 2469 forward. There is a tremendous void in services to those most in need due to state budget cuts. I am Jon Berliner, Executive Director of Gregory House Programs. Gregory House Programs serves individuals and families living with HIV and AIDS who have little income due to their disability.

These individuals and families can't afford their daily living expenses no less their rent. Through Gregory House Programs with Department of Health Funding, we are able to provide rent subsidies to keep these families housed. Late November, I received a phone call from the Branch Chief of the STD/AIDS Prevention of the Hawaii Department of Health to notify me that we were being cut \$41,000 effective immediately. This is right in the middle of our fiscal year and therefore relates to over \$6,800 a month in funding. As a result, I have had to eliminate a Housing Case Manager, reduce all rent subsidies from our state funding, and now in the process of determining which households we will completely terminate from the program. These families, as a result of termination from the program will become homeless. This is truly a tragedy and will actually cost the state more money in emergency room visits and cause new HIV infections. Recent studies show that keeping persons with HIV/AIDS housed results in better health outcomes, reduced emergency room visits, and a reduction in new HIV infections.

I wholly support passage of SB 2469, and hope that some of these funds can be made available to Gregory House Programs to mitigate the serious situation we are facing with these state funding cuts, negatively impacting our clients. We have been placed in a very precarious and serious crisis situation as a result of these state funding cuts with the impact being felt by the most vulnerable people in our state.

I respectfully request and support passage of SB 2469 to support the mitigation of the lack of support to our citizens most in need. Please include Gregory House Programs and our clients when considering passage of this wonderful Senate Bill 2469.

Sincerely and with Aloha,
Jonathon Berliner

Executive Director
Jonathon Berliner
jonb@gregoryhouse.org



CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAII

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

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair

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

DATE of Hearing: Thursday February 4, 2010
2:15 p.m., Room 016

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT of SB 2469**

Chair Chun Oakland, Ige, and Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara, Green, and Takamini, and Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services, Health, and Judiciary and Government Operations my name is Stella Wong and I am the Vice President of Programs at Catholic Charities Hawai'i. I am testifying **in support of SB2469, RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND,**

Catholic Charities Hawai'i fully supports SB 2469.

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 elders, 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, the numbers of people at risk are growing. There are more people coming to our doors needing food, shelter, jobs and other basics of life. There is nothing more heartbreaking than to have to turn away families with young children, frail elders and individuals with disabilities.

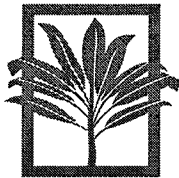
Losing one's job in many families with young infants adds tremendous stress. Programs dealing with child abuse, domestic violence, and family counseling have become more critical. Growing needs will only continue and further cuts will put more families at risk.

Cuts to services for senior citizens and individuals with developmental disabilities place these vulnerable populations at risk of costly institutionalization for which government, and taxpayers, will eventually bear the burden.

The legislature had the foresight to set up the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund as a safety net for social services. The safety net for all social services that affect our most vulnerable in the state is getting very thin and will soon be in shreds if nothing is done. There will be many more people faced with health and safety issues and it will cost the State, and taxpayers, more money in the long run if we do not **do what we can now** to maintain these at risk populations in the community.

I'm sure I don't have to say it but "**It's Raining.**" Please help restore programs to protect the most vulnerable in this State. I strongly urge your committee to pass SB 2469

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Please feel free to contact me at 527-4888 or swong@catholiccharitieshawaii.org if I can provide any further information.



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

Senate Committee on Human Services

The Hon. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

The Hon. Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Health

The Hon. David Y. Ige, Chair

The Hon. Josh Green, MD, Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 2469

Relating to the Emergency & Budget Reserve Fund

Submitted by Beth Giesting, Chief Executive Officer

February 4, 2010, 2:15 p.m., 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. Each of the items identified for funding in SB 2469 is important to the health and well-being of Hawaii. Each contributes substantially to preventing far worse calamities and costs than we currently experience.

The Hawaii Primary Care Association particularly asks your support for:

- Section 10 that calls for adequate funding for health care provided to the uninsured by restoring \$3.5 million eliminated from the budget last year at a time when funds were most needed.
- Section 13 that appropriates \$332,000 to subsidize the costs of the emergency room at Wai'anae Coast Comprehensive Health Center.
- Section 14, which would continue funding for the Immigrant Health Initiative, a program that cost just \$550,000 and served 1,667 low income immigrants last year.
- Section 15, which would restore \$600,000 funding for the "Keiki Care" program.
- Sections 20-23, which would restore funding for Outstationed Eligibility Workers at community health centers and pay for outreach in high risk communities to ensure that vulnerable individuals are linked to public benefits for which they are eligible. These workers find the uninsured who are eligible for Med-QUEST and other programs and assist them to submit complete applications so they can get needed health care. Given the drastic cuts in MQD staffing, this community-based service is needed more than ever.
- Section 27, which would restore adult dental services to Med-QUEST beneficiaries. In last year's legislative budget, the State cost was estimated to be \$3.1 million, which would attract a federal match of \$4.2 million.
- Section 28, which would ensure adequate funds for Medicaid for next year. Without adequate funding, cuts to Medicaid may leave many more economically strapped Hawaii residents with no access to full health care. This will result in personal peril and additional strains on the network of community health centers and hospitals which would be left to cope with significantly greater uncompensated care. Cuts to the State Medicaid budget are magnified in lost federal revenues and an overall depletion of economic support for Hawaii's health care industry.

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 on SB 2469

RE: Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

By

Howard Garval, President and CEO

Child & Family Service

Presented to Joint Senate Committees on Human Services, Health, and Judiciary
and Government Operations

Thursday, February 4, 2010

Conference Room 016

Good afternoon, Chairs Senators Taniguchi, Chun Oakland, Ige and Vice-Chairs Senators Ihara, Green, and Takamine

I am Howard Garval, President & CEO of Child & Family Service that provides services from keiki to kupuna on every island. We touch the lives of over 40,000 people in Hawaii each year. We have been delivering human services in Hawaii since 1899. We strongly support SB 2469.

First let me tell you a story. I was over visiting our programs and staff in Kona last week with one of our newer board members. We had lunch with a variety of program managers in the Kona office. I asked them how things were going in their programs. What I heard made me even more concerned about the impact of funding cuts on services to children at risk and domestic violence victims. I heard about a teenager whose parent choked her to the point of creating welts on her neck and yet when this was reported as part of mandated reporting, the case was not accepted for investigation. I heard about the impact of the 40% cut in our domestic violence services on the entire island of Hawaii. I worry about the lack of victim services that has resulted. This past week we laid off two more staff who were delivering important domestic violence services. I worry about all the children in at-risk families who we terminated services for when Healthy Start was decimated in July in spite of the Legislature's support for the program. Right now these families and children may be invisible and people can think there was minimal impact from the funding cuts, but those of us who know these families and children know that this is not the case. It is only a matter of time that these families will become child welfare services cases. It's only a matter of time when the next domestic violence victim is murdered and leaves behind children with no parents. These are

just a few of the serious problems we believe are the result of both the funding cuts and the deteriorating economy and its impact on families.

As I understand it, the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund, also known as the “Rainy Day Fund” was established for “times of emergency, economic downturn, or unforeseen reduction in revenues with the specific purposes of “maintaining levels of programs determined to be essential to public health, safety, welfare, and education.” I submit that it is very clear that if there ever was a time to access this fund, it is now.

I also want to add that it should not come down to a choice between education or human services. Many at-risk children will not succeed in school without the social services that support and strengthen families; programs like Healthy Start that intervenes early with at-risk infants and young children are as important as ending Furlough Fridays. What good is it to restore classroom days if the kids are so at-risk that they will not succeed in school without social services?

I believe all of us in the nonprofit human services community realize that the state faces serious challenges and we cannot sustain the same level of funding for services, but we need to protect the already severely reduced services to our most vulnerable citizens or the consequences will be tragic and even more costly.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

February 4, 2010

To: **Senate Committee on Human Services; Senate Committee on Health and Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Affairs**

RE: **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2469:**

Hearing: February 4, 2010; 2:15pm; Room 16

Submitted by: Richard P. Bettini, MPH, MS, Chief Executive Officer
Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center
Contact – 697-3457 or wcchc@wcchc.com

SB 2469 contains funds for the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center's 24-hour emergency room. The funds would restore the \$132,000 that was eliminated by the State from the Health Center's Emergency Room subsidy budget as well as \$200,000 to make up for the financial loss in ER from midnight to 8am. The total cost to operate the ER from midnight to 8am alone is \$1.8 million.

Support for the Health Center's emergency room is essential for its survival.

The emergency room is one of the most heavily utilized on Oahu. For the period July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009, 9,755 patients were seen through a total of 14,803 visits. The majority of emergency room visits are for conditions related to asthma, upper respiratory infection, complications from insulin-dependent diabetes, cardiovascular conditions such as chest pains and heart attacks, threatened labor, and injuries and wounds, many which are violence related. Time is crucial in many of these situations. The Health Center's ER is rated as a Type II facility for Hospital Capability for Readiness in time of a disaster/security situation and is designated as a Trauma Support Clinic by the State Emergency Medical System.

The Health Center has served the Waianae community since 1972 providing primary care, emergency medical services, and a wide range of other health and social services.

The Health Center is a safety net for the poor and underserved and needs the financial support provided through SB 2469.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this very important bill.

Senate Committee on Human Services
Senate Committee on Health
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations

Committee Hearing on SB 2469
Thursday, February 4, 2010
2:15 pm, Conference Room 016

Chair Chun Oakland and members of the Senate Committee on Human Services;
Chair Ige and members of the Senate Committee on Health;
Chair Taniguchi and members of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on behalf of **SB 2469**. I am Jill Kitamura, Senior Program Director with the Moiliili Community Center Senior Center Program. I refer to **Sections 4 and 5**, and note that we are in favor of both sections.

The opening statements of the SB 2469 clearly note the economic impact on so many different programs statewide. The programs noted request for over 98 million dollars from the emergency and budget reserve fund, which would totally deplete the fund. Add to this the suggested DOE portion. The difficulties for you will be setting priorities on what programs to fund. Many of the programs under non-profits, like those assisting the elderly, face the real possibility of being cut from departmental budgets. We face the uncertainty with a time frame of not knowing until after the legislature closes, and whether any monies will be released.

The senior center programs at the different community centers help the senior to remain independent at home and in their community, a cost saving alternative to being institutionalized. Being socially involved keeps the mind active, exercise classes help with one's physical fitness, learning new things, and the awareness of resources in the community -- all contribute to the well being of the senior. These seniors not only gain personally but contribute back to the community in many ways.

Kupuna Care Services are essential to helping seniors stay in their homes as long as possible. They provide important services, such as case management, transportation, bathing, meals, respite for the caregiver. Seniors can and will contribute for services, but many cannot afford the actual cost of these services. These lower income, gap group individuals will fail very quickly, needing institutional care earlier than if intervention services were readily available.

I urge you to seriously consider programs and services for seniors to be one of your priority areas. Thank you for your kind attention.

Jill T. Kitamura
Program Director
Moiliili Senior Center
Moiliili Community Center
2535 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96826
Ph: (808) 955-1555

ChunOakland3 - Serena

From: Tony Leone [mauitectony@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2010 12:54 AM
To: 'Mary Matsukawa'
Cc: HMS Testimony
Subject: email testimony submitted by Coach Tony Leone Special Olympics Maui
Attachments: image001.jpg

Categories: Green Category

Mahalo for the opportunity to participate in this testimony. I hope it reaches the correct email box in time.

Subject: Testimony for SB2469 on 2/4/2010 2:15:00 PM

Testimony for HMS/HTH/JGO 2/4/2010 2:15:00 PM SB2469

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Tony Leone,
Organization: Head Coach, Maui Special Olympics
Address: 3578 Piikea PI Makawao, HI. 96768
Phone: (808) 572-6284
E-mail: mauitectony@aol.com
Submitted on: 2/4/2010

Comments:
I STRONGLY URGE THE PASSAGE OF THIS BILL.

As head coach for Maui Special Olympics, I am able to see the benefit to our athletes from services provided by DD Services.

most of our athletes receiving DD services are provided with a means of transport and a companion to ensure participation in

the Special Olympic sports training program. I have no doubt that if these services were decreased further the opportunity of

physical exercise, companionship/friendship, and most importantly that feeling of accomplishment and confidence, would be

No longer present for those individuals. I have already witnessed the effects of the first of the program 15% cuts in services.

Many now have to cut short our practice time or limit participation to one day/week instead of the scheduled twice/week.

This may not seem like much in terms of persons without challenges, but to a challenged individual, this may be the only Opportunity to free themselves from a routine of lethargy and for some unfortunates, obesity. The funds are well spent if they

prevent further medical problems which may place the individual at risk with costly future medical remedies and treatments.

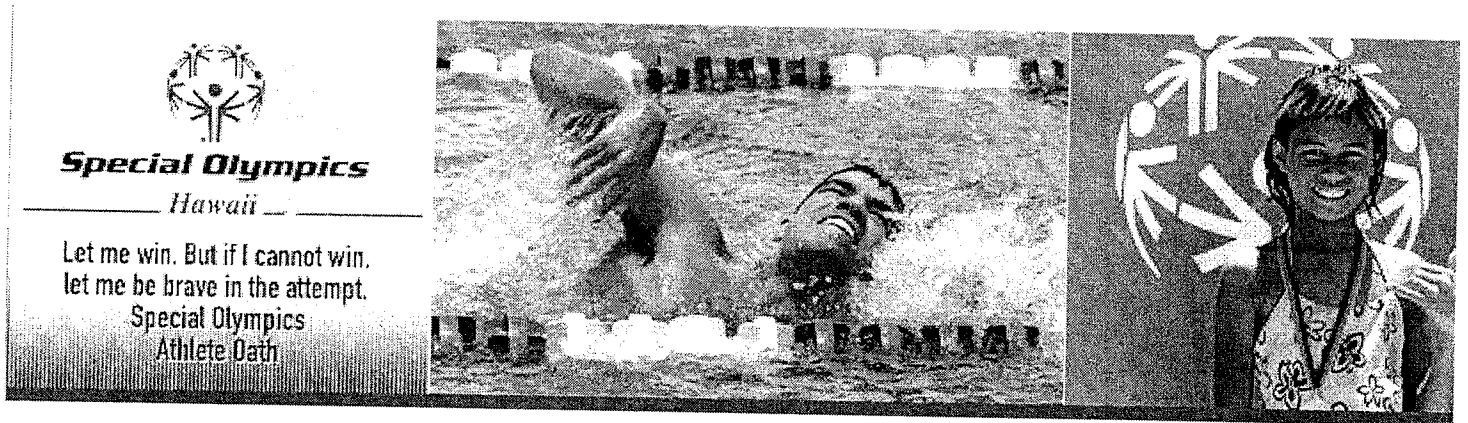
Exercise is the simple solution and the alternate cure for most of what troubles our society today. Please do not deny persons

with disabilities the opportunity to succeed and win in sports and in life.

Mahalo,

Tony Leone

mauitectony@aol.com



AKAHI

300 W. Wakea Ave.
Kahului, 96732
877-0544

ELUA

200 Hina Ave.
Kahului, 96732-1800
872-4180

EKOLU

717 Makaala Dr.
Wailuku, 96793
242-4377

EHA

1057 Makawao Ave.
Makawao, 96768
573-1647

ELIMA

11 Mahaolu St.
Kahului, 96732
893-0002

EONO

810 Kelaweia St.
Lahaina, 96761
661-5957

EHIKU

56 Ehiiku St.
Kihei, 96753
891-8588

HOME PUMEHANA

P.O. Box 100
Molokai, 96748
553-5788

HALE KUPUNA

O LANAI
P.O. Box 630418
Lanai City, 96763
565-6615

LAHAINA SURF

1037 Wainee St.
Lahaina, 96761
661-3771

LUANA GARDENS

615 W. Papa Ave.
Kahului, 96732
871-9009

KOMOHAHA HALE

120 Leoleo St.
Lahaina, 96761
661-3771

HOUSING DEVLPMNT.

200 Hina Ave.
Kahului, 96732-1800
872-4100/872-4108

CHSP/MEALS


PROGRAM
200 Hina Ave.
Kahului, 96732-1800
872-4170

PERSONAL CARE

11 Mahaolu St.
Kahului, 96732
873-0521

HOMEOWNERSHIP/

**HOUSING
COUNSELING**
200 Hina Ave.
Kahului, 96732-1800
872-4114



Hale Mahaolu

200 HINA AVE. • KAHULUI - MAUI, HAWAII 96732-1800
PH: (808) 872-4100 • FAX (808) 872-4120
TDD# (800) 545-1833 EXT. 432

February 4, 2010

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

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

Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair

From: Roy Katsuda, Executive Director
Kathy Louis, Personal Care Program Director

Re: Testimony SB 2469, Thursday, February 4, 2010, 2:15 p.m.,
Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of Senate Bill 2469 to appropriate moneys from the emergency and budget reserve fund to maintain levels of programs for education, human services, and health. We sincerely appreciate the difficult task you face in these troubled economic times and appreciate any assistance you could provide Hale Mahaolu Personal Care Program.

The Department of Human Services has funded our Adult Personal Care Program since 1985. We have a contract that expires June 30, 2011 however was informed in April 2009 that our contract would end June 30, 2009. While we anticipated a reduction in funding, we were unprepared for the devastating news that our Program which has served Maui County's disabled and chronically ill adults and frail elderly since 1985 will no longer exist.

We were able to receive partial funding from the County of Maui for one year and was promised \$50,000 from the Department of Human Services, however to date, we have not received the State funds. We have been able to continue services to our current clients, however there are 55 clients waiting to be served.



The clients we serve do not fit the mold for Medicaid Waiver services, as they are not nursing home level clients. Although they are not nursing home level clients, they require personal care services to help them safely maintain an independent lifestyle and prevent premature or unnecessary institutionalization. We implore you to intervene on behalf of our vulnerable clients who will be without services effective July 1, 2010 unless funding for this critical high demand program is received.

Our request for funding is \$233,280 which provides subsidized personal care services to 18 clients with over 16,000 hours of personal care services a year. We also serve approximately 100 clients in the community who have received unsubsidized personal care attendant referrals. We are doing all we can to scrape together funds to keep the Program active and help our clients with at least, some basic personal care services. Any assistance from the State of Hawaii for July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011 would be appreciated.

Our Program has saved our clients, their families, community, and government millions of dollars over the last 25 years. Please help us to keep this Program active until these hard economic times have passed and previous funding can be realized.

We sincerely appreciate your consideration and support of our Personal Care Program. Please contact either of us at 872-4100 (Roy) or 873-0521 (Kathy) if you have any questions or need further information.

Attached are copies of letters sent from a few of our clients. Their testimony speak for themselves.

2180 Vineyard St., #102
Wailuku, HI 96793
May 1, 2009

Lillian Koller
Director, Department of Human Services
1390 Miller St., Suite #207
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Director Koller:

I am writing a letter of support for the Hale Mahaolu Adult Personal Care Program, Contract #DHS-06-POS-3092. This program has been an immense help in taking care of my mother. A year and a half ago she fell and broke her right hip and right elbow. She had to rehab at Hale Makua for 3 months. She also has Alzheimer's. She now lives at Hale Mahaolu Elima Senior Housing. My mother needs help dressing, bathing and preparing her meals. The personal care program allows her to remain in her home and not have to be institutionalized. The Personal Care Attendants that help my mom are thoughtful and kind and my mom really likes them. I'm asking that you please not cut this vital program.

Sincerely yours,

Cary D. Valdez

My name is Kevin Souza. I have Muscular Dystrophy. I was diagnosed when I was 15 years old. I am now 50. I finished High School and attended college. I was able to work until 1992. At that point in time I was still able to get around, but in 1994 I had to go to the wheelchair. My condition is getting worst. I have a nurse's aid that comes and helps with my toileting and bathing. He works with me 4 days a week.

I have many medications and doctors to visit. My income is fixed and very limited. I am middle aged and cannot receive Medicaid yet, so my expenses are high. Right now, even before any cuts in funding, I have very little money left over to buy the things that bring enjoyment to life such as a movie and to buy lunch once a week.

My parents are both 73 years of age. They help some, but their health will sooner or later get to the point that I will need even more care than I now receive.

I am asking for your help, if the program that I now receive is cut I don't know where to turn.

Thank you for your kind considerations.

Kevin Souza

From: <Monica_Nakahashi/HAIKU/HIDOE@notes.k12.hi.us>
To: "Louis" <Kathy@halemahaolu.org>
Date: 4/17/2009 2:40:57 PM
Subject: Re: Support Letter Attachment

April 17, 2009

Dear Governor Linda Lingle and Lillian Koller,

Hale Mahaoulu's Personal Care Program has been a BLESSING to our family. Thanks to this wonderful service my parents Gilbert and Genevieve Gouveia {dad received services until his death on December 26, 2007} are able to remain in their home and receive personal care services for up to four hours per day to assist with bathing, grooming, hygiene, skin/hair care, meal prep, medication management, light housekeeping following personal care, laundry, and other duties related to personal care as needed.

I beg you not to cut this WONDERFUL program from our aging parents. My parents worked hard their whole life to be productive members of our community. They volunteered and gave of their time and energy to make other people's life a little sweeter. NOW WE NEED THE STATE TO KOKUA US AND HELP THEM IN THEIR TIME OF NEED. We count on this program TO KEEP MY PARENTS IN THE HOME AND NOT INSTITUTIONALIZED. This is a low cost service and this prevents them from going into a high cost nursing home.

Please reconsider your decision. If I can be of assistance to you please contact me at home 572-1727 work 575-3000, cell 250-1727 or email monica_nakahashi@notes.k12.hi.us.

Sincerely,

Monica Gouveia Nakahashi

James B. Callahan
HC 1 Box 920
Kaunakakai, Hi 96748
April 14, 2009

The Honorable Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawaii
Executive Chambers
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hi 96813

Dear Governor Lingle,

I am a State of Hawaii Public Health Nurse on the island of Molokai. My core duty for the past 19 years has been leading the Case Management Coordination Program (CMCP) for frail elderly here.

In the course of my duties, I assess individual elderly, seek services for frail elderly, and often turn to Hale Mahaolu for a Personal Care Attendant.

The purpose of this letter is to urge you to support this program, now contract number DHS-06-POS-3092

I understand that this contract is in jeopardy, and I am concerned about this, because the program has been wonderful for Molokai's elderly.

This is a program that has been going for 24 years. It is a regular part of the elderly care system we have on Molokai. I believe it has kept many of our elderly at home, and out of costly institutions.

Please do anything you can to preserve the funding for this needed program on Molokai.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,



To Lillian Koller,

I am a client of the Hale Mahaolu Personal Care Program for several years now.

I have been suffering from Muscular Dystrophy for the past 24 years, and I am

Also a diabetic. I face many challenges daily, and with the personal care programs

Help my daily living has become much more capable. The personal care program

is such a blessing to me, as it gives me an opportunity to stay in the convenience

Of my own home and receive personal care. It also changed my spiritual side

Making me a more humble person. I have the help needed from my personal care

attendant, so I can control my frustrations in all of my daily challenges.

My personal care attendant addresses my personal care needs daily, such as

Assisting me with bathing, grooming, hygiene, and other duties related to personal

Care as needed. The 4hrs given to me daily has changed my life. Taking away my

Health care for 4hrs is horrible. Who will help me with my everyday challenging

Needs? I'm in terror right now just thinking about that! I only ask you one thing!

Don't take away my dignity! Please continue this program! I don't want to think

About going to a hospital or a care home! Please help me and others in my situation

To keep the program running!

Sincerely,

Hildabe Albert
756 Lono Ave
Kahului, HI 96732

JAMES AGANOS
REAL ESTATE APPRAISER, LLC
P.O. Box 1442
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Phone: 808-242-6788 Fax: 808-242-5586
e-mail: jimmy@jaganos.com

April 14, 2009

Lillian Koller
Director
Dept. of Human Services

Governor Linda Lingie
State of Hawaii Capital
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Hale Mahaolu Personal Care Services

This letter is written in support of the Hale Mahaolu Personal Care Services Program on Maui.

Hale Mahaolu Personal Care Services plays a critical role in our community providing help to families caring for their Kūpuna and disabled family members with dignity in a safe, loving environment in the privacy of their own homes. I personally have had the privilege of working with Kathy Louis and her staff while caring for my ailing mother at home until she passed away in 2003. If it weren't for the in house services provided by this essential program, it would have been impossible for me to take care of my Mom at home with dignity and respect.

My Mother-in-Law has also benefited tremendously from this program which has allowed her to maintain an independent lifestyle in her own apartment, preventing premature and unnecessary placement in a nursing facility. Transportation to and from Adult Day Care, light housekeeping, preparation of her breakfast and assistance with her medications and daily testing of her blood for sugar levels are some of the services provided to her.

I feel that a program such as this is essential to basic health care for the elderly and eliminating funding to this program would only compound the existing problems that already face our growing elderly population.

PLEASE RECONSIDER YOUR DECISION TO ELIMINATE FUNDING FOR THIS PROGRAM.

Sincerely,

Norene Garcia Aganos

Norene Garcia Aganos

February 1, 2010

To: Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Senate Committee on Human Chair

Sen. David Ige, Senate Committee on Health Chair

Sen. Brian Taniguchi, Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations
Chair

Members of the Senate Committees on Human Services, Health and Judiciary and
Government Operations

From: Diana Wong

RE: **Support for SB 2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

Hearing Date: Thursday, February 4, 2010

Time: 2:15 pm

Place: Conference Room 016

Dear Chairs and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **SUPPORT of SB2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**. My name is Diana Wong and I am member of the Waikiki Community Center and a Hawaii Resident.

I go to the Waikiki Community Center and participate in Line Dancing, Hula Dancing and Lei Making, go to the Farmer's Market. They also helped me to find out the latest news in senior housing. I found out that I qualified for senior housing and wanted to do this so I could avoid big rent increases on my limited budget. The Senior Program Coordinator assisted me in finding an affordable senior housing building in the Waikiki area. I am able to get resources and information at the Waikiki Community Center that I haven't been able to get anywhere else, and in my own neighborhood. They help me stay active in the community and are easily available whenever I need help.

The Waikiki Community Center's Senior Program is an important focal point for the Waikiki community. Through this program, Waikiki's many older residents are able to receive a variety of services, including activities and classes that promote physical fitness, cognitive stimulation, and social connections as well as case management and counseling when their needs change. Many older residents in Waikiki rely upon the Waikiki Community Center as a place to come to for assistance and being a part of the community. Their range of services enable Waikiki's older residents to stay fit, connected with their community and remain independent in their own homes for as long as possible.

I ask for your support of SB2469 and that you please provide the funding that will support Senior Centers and the programs of the Waikiki Community Center. WCC serves as a community hub for wellness activities and social connectivity and meaningful participation in our community. It is important to keep its doors open for Waikiki's elders. Thank you.

February 1, 2010

**Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair, Committee on Human Services
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair, Committee on Health
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair, Committee on Judiciary and Government
Operations
The Senate, State of Hawaii**

Re: Senate Bill 2469 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Dear Chairs and Committee Members:

We write in STRONG SUPPORT for Senate Bill 2469, which would appropriate moneys from the emergency and budget reserve fund to maintain levels of programs for education, human services, health, including Medicaid waiver programs for persons with developmental disabilities..

We urge the Senate to authorize funds from whatever source is appropriate to ensure that vital educational, human services and health programs are not cut further, and if possible, restored to at least former levels.

We are the parents of a person with developmental disabilities who is unable to live in our community without substantial supports. For many years she has relied, among other things, upon Medicaid waiver funds to obtain services provided by two excellent social services agencies for habilitation and personal assistance.

Last fiscal year her services were reduced, creating hardship and lost opportunity for development and independent living. We hope that these services can be restored. We also believe that dental services for adults should be restored.

Your consideration of this and other remedies for lagging health and social services is truly appreciated, and we urge approval of SB 2469.

Thomas and Gloria Huber

ChunOakland3 - Serena

From: James R. (Bob) Proffitt [bob@pixi.com]
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2010 1:55 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: Debbie Miyasaka-Gushiken
Subject: SB2469 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Categories: Green Category

Testimony for the hearing on Thursday, February 4, 2010 at 2:15 p.m.

Please support SB 2469 relating to the Emergency and Budget Relief Fund.

I am Margaret B. Proffitt, the mother and guardian of a man, Carl, with developmental disabilities (mental retardation and physical disabilities).

Carl receives medicaid services which are teaching him to be more independent and maybe some day be able to live in the community on his own. He finally seems to understand spending money and getting change back on purchases.

Carl does not receive dental services which are vital to good health. Because he is a mouth breather, his dentist needs to clean and check his teeth every three months. Carl cannot afford this with his SSI and SSA. We, his parents, do provide the dental service for him, but if we were not around, he would not get near the amount of service he needs.

We urge you to please support SB 2469 relating to the Emergency and Relief Fund. Thank you for your attention to this email.

Margaret B. Proffitt

2024 A'aniu Loop

Pearl City, HI 96782

456-2777

bob@pixi.com

ChunOakland3 - Serena

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2010 5:17 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: kahukama@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2469 on 2/4/2010 2:15:00 PM

Categories: Green Category

Testimony for HMS/HTH/JGO 2/4/2010 2:15:00 PM SB2469

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Natalie Kama
Organization: Individual
Address: P. O. Box 503 Wailuku, Hawaii 96793
Phone: (298-8276)
E-mail: kahukama@aol.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2010

Comments:

I STRONGLY URGE THE PASSAGE OF THIS BILL.

Lena is a 22 year old female with Down's Syndrome. Without the funding she would sit at home from morning til night vegetating her life away. Because of the funding she is able to leave her home Monday through Friday and attend a day program with her peers.

She rises in the morning at 6 am. Gets on the bus at 6:30 am. Arrives at her program at Easter Seals Maui and stays until 2 pm. At Easter Seals she gathers with the other adults with physical, mental and emotional challenges to participate in a myriad of activities to increase their daily living skills. At 2 pm she is picked up by a personal assistant and taken into the community to develop her living skills. She is returned home at 6 pm. and this continues throughout the week. On Saturday, she is picked up by her personal assistant and she spends 8 hours in the community participating in activities of her choosing.

Easter Seals isn't a place where Lena goes to while away her life. It is a place where goals are set, objectives implemented to develop Lena into a contributing member of our community. Day by day Lena is growing, maturing, learning, and becoming a wonderful member of our Wailuku community. She volunteers by feeding the hungry, raising money for the people of Maui through the Salvation Army Kettle Drive, and helps in her church.

Attending program has strengthened Lena as an individual, increased her self-esteem, taught her to relate to her surroundings, and is continuously bringing out the best in her.

Lena already has taken a 15% reduction in her services. Another reduction would liken her and others' existence during an era where adults like her were put into one room and left unattended for days at a time because no one valued their existence. Funding for these programs were established to ensure that persons with disabilities would never have to live under unsanitary, unsafe, and inhumane conditions.

Adults such as Lena remind us of our humanity.

I STRONGLY URGE PASSAGE OF THIS BILL

ChunOakland3 - Serena

From: manis [manis@lava.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2010 11:04 AM
To: HMS Testimony
Subject: Testimony for SB 2469
Attachments: SB2469 Rainy dy funds

Categories: Green Category

Attached is also testimony same as below.

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES Senators Suzanne Chun Oakland, Les Ihara, COMMITTEE ON HEALTH Senators David Y. Ige, Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS Senators Brian T. Taniguchi, Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2469.

Thursday, February 4th, 2010, 2:15 p.m. Room 016

SUPPORT

I am Laura Manis and strongly support 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.

I am submitting testimony on behalf of the legislative committee of PABEA and also for Kokua Council, HARA, AARP all of whom support this bill. My testimony does not represent the views of the EOA but of the PABEA Board.

All the services provided for in the bill are ongoing, successful and needed. Our organizations are, of course, especially interested in programs funding those that are 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. These are services funded through the Kupuna Care program, Catholic charities and the various Senior Centers. 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.

We wish to commend the Legislature for utilizing the rainy day fund at this time which is appropriate to the fiscal crisis now facing Hawaii.
Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Laura G. Manis
Tel. 597-8838

ChunOakland3 - Serena

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2010 3:50 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: raelenes@pacificil.org
Subject: Testimony for SB2469 on 2/4/2010 2:15:00 PM

Categories: Green Category

Testimony for HMS/HTH/JGO 2/4/2010 2:15:00 PM SB2469

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Raelene Souza
Organization: Hawaii Centers For Independent Living
Address: 1055 Kino'ole St Suite 105 Hilo, Hi 96720
Phone: (808) 935-3777
E-mail: raelenes@pacificil.org
Submitted on: 2/2/2010

Comments:

I am in support of this bill. Thank You

ChunOakland3 - Serena

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2010 4:20 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: leonas@pacificil.org
Subject: Testimony for SB2469 on 2/4/2010 2:15:00 PM

Categories: Green Category

Testimony for HMS/HTH/JGO 2/4/2010 2:15:00 PM SB2469

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: leonaMerle Sugahara
Organization: Hawaii Center for Independent Living
Address: 1055 Kinoole St., Suite 105 Hilo, Hawaii
Phone: 808-935-3777
E-mail: leonas@pacificil.org
Submitted on: 2/2/2010

Comments:

Testimony to the Senate Committees on Human Services, Health and Judiciary and Government Operations Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair Senator David Ige, Chair Senator Dwight Takamine, Chair

Aloha,

I am in support of S.B. #2469-Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund.
February 4, 2010
2:15 p.m.
Conference Room 016

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

leonaMerle Sugahara
Administrative Assistant
Hawaii Center for Independent Living

ChunOakland3 - Serena

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2010 9:05 AM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: framodda@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2469 on 2/4/2010 2:15:00 PM

Categories: Green Category

Testimony for HMS/HTH/JGO 2/4/2010 2:15:00 PM SB2469

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Ramoda Anand
Organization: Individual
Address: 1250 Olinda Rd Makawao, HI
Phone: 808-205-2722
E-mail: framodda@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/3/2010

Comments:

I support this measure wholeheartedly. I am a 24-year-old man with cerebral palsy and I have been a member of the DD Committee for a few years. Some of you have seen me at the Day at the Capitol. I have a story to tell...I am affected if you do not pass this bill. Therefore, I urge the committee to pass this bill out of committee and send it to the full House for immediate action.

Mahalo,
Ramoda Anand

ChunOakland3 - Serena

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2010 12:06 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: cmolina@higoodwill.org
Subject: Testimony for SB2469 on 2/4/2010 2:15:00 PM

Categories: Green Category

Testimony for HMS/HTH/JGO 2/4/2010 2:15:00 PM SB2469

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Cynthia Molina
Organization: Individual
Address: 2610 Kilihau Street Honolulu, HI
Phone: 836-0313
E-mail: cmolina@higoodwill.org
Submitted on: 2/3/2010

Comments:

ChunOakland3 - Serena

From: christina chang [christina@lokelaniohana.org]
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2010 3:40 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: 'Mary Matsukawa'
Subject: SB2469 on 2/4 2010 2:15:00 PM

Categories: Green Category

Testimony for HMS/HTH/JGO 2/4/2010 2:15:00 PM SB2469

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Christina Chang
Organization: Individual
Address: 2315 Kahekili Hwy Wailuku, Hawaii 96793
Phone: (249-0249)
E-mail: christina@lokelaniohana.org
Submitted on: 2/3/2010

Comments:

I STRONGLY URGE THE PASSAGE OF THIS BILL

Malia La'a Kea Angelica Chang is a 27 year old hapa woman that lives in the autism spectrum. She was diagnosed by Maui pediatrician, Bert Takitani MD, when she was one. She still needs help with personal hygiene, dressing and all of the simple life skills that many of us take for granted. Angelica cannot be left alone for safety reasons. And because of the behavioral challenges that comes with autism, Angelica requires two-on-one care.

We are grateful for the early intervention program with IMUA services and the steadfast support of Kevin Morris at The Department of Health, Angelica's case manager for the last 21 years. Mary Matsukawa with the Maui Developmental Disabilities Committee has been a long-term essential backbone of our community, a devoted educator and a true support for many parents reeling from the hard realities of our beloved children's disabilities.

Over the years, Angelica has received services from many Medicaid Waiver agencies. The Medicaid Waiver Agencies have sincere and committed people serving the people with special needs. Her Applied Behavioral Analysis program with Quality Behavioral Outcome[QBO] begins at 7am and ends at 8 pm. We present a visual schedule to her and she is supported in engaging in life tasks, one at a time, placing the completed visual icon associated with her task on the pau board. People with autism are visual learners. Until QBO began to work with Angelica with a highly trained staff, her behaviors were off the charts and she could not really function in her life. The police even had to be called. Knowing what is going to happen with her day through a visual schedule, being given choices and strong boundaries has helped Angelica to become much calmer, happier, and express much less aggression and better behaviors. With these supports she is more verbal and has energy to function better in the world.

Mahalo for your realization of the value of each human being and supporting them to fulfill their potential to contribute to our community. Mahalo for your compassion and for your vote for funding SB2469 in support of the Medicaid Waiver for people with special needs.

Malama Pono,
Christina Chang
Mother of Malia La'a Kea Angelica Chang

ChunOakland3 - Serena

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2010 4:31 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: Tlenzer@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2469 on 2/4/2010 2:15:00 PM

Categories: Green Category

Testimony for HMS/HTH/JGO 2/4/2010 2:15:00 PM SB2469

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Anthony Lenzer
Organization: Individual
Address: 222 Kuukama St. Kailua, HI 96734
Phone: 261-2095
E-mail: Tlenzer@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/3/2010

Comments:

My name is Anthony Lenzer. I am testifying as an individual in strong support of this Bill. At the same time, you should be aware that several senior advocacy groups of which I am a member or officer - Kokua Council, the Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition, the Hawaii Alliance of Retired Americans (HARA), and the PABEA Legislative Committee - are also solidly behind the Bill's provisions which affect older adults and their families. These are, specifically, Sections 2, 4, 5, and 6.

In these difficult economic times, why should the State use monies from its emergency and budget reserve fund for these purposes? First, because maintaining programs essential to public health, safety, welfare, and education is exactly why the Legislature created this fund in 1999. And, second, because the programs which these provisions would support are all designed to keep older adults healthy, active, socially engaged, and in their own homes. Experience suggests that this will result in less need for institutional care, thus reducing future cost burdens for the State.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

**TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON HUMAN SERVICES,
HEALTH AND JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

Senator David Ige, Chair

Senator Brian Taniguchi, Chair

**Testimony Supporting S.B# 2469: “Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve
Fund”**

February 4, 2010

2:15 p.m.

Conference Room 016

**Individual Testimony of
Audrey Suga-Nakagawa**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of S.B. # 2469 – “Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund” which provides funding for Hawaii’s safety net programs for vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly, and disabled persons. I am the current State Aging and Disability Resource Center Project Coordinator but submitting this testimony as a private individual.

The bill supports critical programs such as Kupuna Care, Senior Centers, Healthy Aging that are part of our community infrastructure for education, health and safety and need to be preserved during this difficult economic period. Another is the Aging and Disability Resource Center (also refer as ADRC) listed under SECTION 6.

The ADRC is part of a national effort to establish a single-entry, one-stop service that help people make informed decisions about long term services and options. The goal is to empower individuals to make informed choices and streamline access to long term support which includes in-home care, community based programs and institutional services such as nursing homes and other programs that are designed to help the elderly and individuals with disabilities including younger adults.

Hawaii successfully established two pilot sites on the islands of Hawaii and Oahu. The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), which is administratively attached to the Department of Health, serves the lead agency for Hawaii’s ADRC project and provides the administrative oversight. In partnership with EOA, the Hawaii County Office of Aging and the City and County of Honolulu Elderly Affairs Division are operating the ADRC sites. The Hilo ADRC is a physical site that is co-located by nine major service providers and programs serving the elderly and people with disabilities. The facility celebrated its grand opening in November 2008.

The Honolulu ADRC launched a comprehensive resource website (www.HawaiiADRC.org) in late 2009 which compliments its information hotline phone

system to provide better information access to consumers. In conjunction with the Kauai County Agency on Elderly Affairs and Department of Health' Health Information System Office, the Honolulu Elderly Affairs Division built the template for a statewide ADRC website which now includes all 4 counties' information on aging and disability services, programs, agencies, and calendar of events in their respective communities.

Hawaii has been fortunate to receive additional federal grants to continue the ADRC expansion statewide. However, the funds do not adequately cover the critical staffing for the two original sites especially Hilo. The demand for ADRC's assistance has been growing as more and more consumers seek help. Oahu satellite outreach sites have been established in the rural communities of Hauula, Kahuku and North Shore with a new site to open soon at Leahi Hospital in East Honolulu.

The ADRC is a collaborative project that has been embraced by all three levels of government – federal, state and county and strengthens the long term care infrastructure in Hawaii. Throughout the country, states are initiating the ADRC expansion beyond their original pilot sites as they are demonstrating to be a proven model for providing information and long term care options to the public. With major cutbacks on social and elder care programs, ADRC plays an even more critical role as families urgently search for reliable and unbiased information that will help them make informed decisions about the care for their loved ones. It is emerging as the safety net for elder care and social service programs throughout the U.S. as people turn to the ADRC as the first stop to obtain assistance with their long term care needs.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Kanani Kaaiawahia Bulawan

TESTIMONY – OPPOSE w/ COMMENTS

SB 2469: EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE; APPROPRIATION

TO: **Sen. S. Chun Oakland**, Chair, Sen. L. Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair, and members of Senate Committee on Human Services;

Sen. D. Ige, Chair, Sen. J. Green, Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Committee on Health;

Sen. B. Taniguchi, Chair, Sen. D. Takamine, Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations

HEARING: Thursday, February 4, 2010 2:15 PM CR: 016

Aloha Chairs Chun Oakland; Ige and Taniguchi, Vice Chairs Ihara; Green and Takamine, and members of the committees:

I'm Kanani Kaaiawahia Bulawan, a homeowner resident of Waianae and the retired executive director of Waianae Community Outreach, a non-profit agency managing the emergency homeless shelter in Kalaeloa and providing homeless outreach services to those on the leeward coast.

I OPPOSE SB 2469 with comments to offer. I strongly agree with the intent of this bill; however, I have 2 major concerns.

1. Appropriations to specific programs and services
As popular as these agencies and providers are, the question is being favored over many other programs that may be equally if not more effective than those who are mentioned in the bill. The funds requested are mainly to maintain current levels of services, I would like to challenge for an increase in services. All providers of services have suffered a cut in budget because of decrease in funding appropriations. If funding is provided to these selected few, we should demand for more services as we are experiencing more economic hardships on families. Therefore, increasing the need to support services to lessen their stress.
2. Appropriation from the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund
In this economic times and challenges it would not be the best idea to use funds from this reserve to supplement or to maintain services. I've mentioned time and time that there will never be enough money. Each year the legislature is under demand to provide increase funding and each year this legislature finds it difficult to appropriate funds that

KKBulawan
SB 2469: APPROPRIATIONS
02/04/10: 2:15PM CR#016

are requested. This is the time for challenging and creative planning. Agencies and providers need to evaluate their core services, how effective they are and what partnership and networking can be done to assure quality and holistic services are delivered to the clients. Know what they do best and how they can offer their talent in exchange for services that they are not most effective with.

I would encourage these agencies that have been identified in the bill to provide a report of the effectiveness they have in the delivery of services and how much more they are willing to add so that we are not merely maintaining the level but increasing it.

I commend the chair and committee for taking on this challenge especially during the most financial demanding times of the present. Mahalo again for this opportunity to provide my testimony and concerns.

ChunOakland3 - Serena

From: Trecker, Christine [ChristineTr@kapiolani.org]
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2010 6:06 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Subject: Testimony for SB2469 Feb 4 at 2:15pm

Categories: Green Category

SB2469 Hearing 2-4-10 at 2:15pm

Christine Trecker, LSW
Manager, Community Education
The Sex Abuse Treatment Center
55 Merchant Street, 22nd Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
(808) 535-7600
www.satchawaii.com

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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, HEALTH, AND
JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 2469

February 4, 2010

RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Senate Bill No. 2469 makes appropriations for Fiscal Year 2011 from the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund to various Executive departments, as well as the Judiciary. Some of the appropriation amounts are provided while others are blank.

We have a concern with this measure as the appropriation amounts (that were not left blank) total \$62,512,416 which exceeds the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund's current balance of \$60.4 million.

Date: 02/04/2010

Committee: Senate Human Services
Senate Health
Senate Judiciary and Government
Operations

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn Matayoshi, Interim Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 2469 RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND.

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

Department's Position: The Department of Education does not support this bill. The Department's number one priority is to restore instructional days that would otherwise be lost due to planned furloughs caused by severe budget reductions, which is not addressed in this bill. This bill includes funding for the Department of Education for non-school hours programs. Funding for the non-school hours programs was eliminated as part of an initial \$40 million per year in budget reductions for the current fiscal biennium. The Department is using federal funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), popularly known as the Stimulus Bill, to provide extended learning opportunities in schools which qualify for the program. Extended learning opportunities provides services to some of the students who had been served by the former non-school hours programs.

MAILING ADDRESS

P. O. Box 127
Kealahou, HI 96750

KEALAKEKUA

81-1065 Konawaena
School Road
Kealahou, HI, 96750
808-323-2626
Mo - Fr, 8:00A - 3:00P

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45-539 Plumeria Street
Building 3, Room 2
Honokaa, HI 96727
808-775-1090
Mo & Th: 8:00A - 5:00P

Fax: 808-323-9444
TDD: 808-323-2889

Federal ID
99-0108896

February 1, 2010

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

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

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair

Re: SB 2469 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve:
Appropriates moneys from the emergency and budget reserve fund
to maintain levels of programs for education, human services,
health.

Aloha and Greetings: My name is Gretchen Lawson. I am the
President/CEO for the Arc of Kona, a private, charitable, not-
for profit organization on the island of Hawaii. The Arc of
Kona actually supports people throughout all the communities
on the big island reaching 308 individuals and their families
as of June 30, 2009. Many of the people we support lost a
great deal of service authorization during fiscal year 2009
and the services and supports delivered under the Partnerships
in Community Living disappeared completely. This had negative
effect on essential services and impacted health and safety to
a great degree. PICL was the only source for needed dental
service and as a result of the loss of this funding we can
attribute one death while we waited for Quest approvals.

Many families saw over 25% of their support go away with no
recourse as to how to fill the void. I implore you to make
use of the budget reserve to keep the safety net in tact and
refuse to cut these essential services further: **DOH Respite;
DD Services - PICL & Waiver Services and Adult Dental Care**

Thank you for understanding the critical nature of these programs and voting
to keep them from further budget cuts.

Sincerely,



Gretchen Lawson
President/CEO



The
ARC of Kona

www.arcofkona.org

"Expanding the Possibilities"
"Ho'o Nui Ka Hiki"



95 Mahalani Street Suite #17
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793
Phone: (808) 242-5781
Fax: (808) 244-4061
Email: arcinfo@arcofmaui.org
Website: www.arcofmaui.org

February 3, 2010

Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Senate Bill 2469

Dear Senator Chun Oakland, Senator Ige and Senator Taniguchi,

We are in full support to maintain program services for people with **Developmental Disabilities!**

Services for developmental disabilities supported by Bill 2469 are:
DD/MR Medicaid Waiver Services, Respite, Adult Dental and Partnership in Community Living (PICL) Services.

Program **BENEFTIS** for this vulnerable population:

- **Assures the Health and Safety** of sixty-three (63) individuals with developmental disabilities within the care of ARC of Maui County.
- **Families are kept intact and Housing is provided.** Services assist families with the “24/7 responsibility of care” for their dependant adult with special needs. These services enable family members to have outside jobs and also provide housing for disabled family member.
- **The Infrastructure of Program Services** prevents institutionalization and supports the community. ARC of Maui County employs 120 people (full and/or part-time) who become skilled caregivers at work, home, and in the community.
- **The Rural and Underserved population of Molokai, Hana and Lanai** are provided services by ARC of Maui County through these much needed programs.
- **Benefits to the State** are significant with federally matched funds to ease the state budget crisis.

Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities occur through no fault of the individual. Life literally depends on the help of others.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Audrey McGauley".

Audrey McGauley
Chief Executive Officer

*Over 50 years of service to
families/persons with
Developmental Disabilities*

Wednesday, February 4, 2010

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair of the Senate Human
Services Committee

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair of the Senate Health Committee

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair of the Senate Judiciary and Govt.
Operations Committee

Twenty-Fifth Legislature

State Capitol

415 S. Beretania Street

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: **Testimony in Support of SB 2469 – Relating to Emergency and
Budget Reserve Fund**

Hearing: Thursday, February 4, 2010 (Joint Committees on Health, Human
Services, Judiciary & Government Operations), Room 226

Dear Senators:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 2469 relating to Emergency
and Budget Reserve Fund.

The mission of ESH is to provide exceptional services to ensure that all people with
disabilities or special needs and their families have equal opportunities to live, learn,
work and play in their communities. ESH was founded in 1946 by a group of parents,
community leaders and businesses who believed in the value of a grass roots organization
committed to helping people with disabilities achieve independence. Today the
organization serves more than 4,000 individuals of all ages who experience many
different types of disabilities or special needs and their families statewide. These
disabilities range from hearing and sight loss to mobility or developmental disabilities
such as autism spectrum disorder, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy and other special
needs.

In order to meet the projected budget short fall for 2009, The Department of Health-
Developmental Disabilities Division's (DOH-DDD) implemented immediate mandated
budget reductions 15% or greater budget reductions to individuals receiving Medicaid
Home & Community based Waiver Services (HCBS). 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.

Waiver programs are essential for the health, welfare and safety of individuals with developmental disabilities. The emergency and budget reserve fund in the amount of \$7,000,000 should be used to maintain the level of programs for individuals with developmental disabilities.

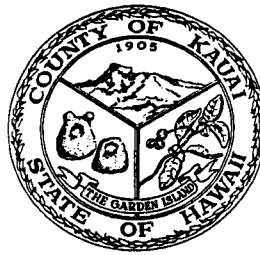
Easter Seals Hawaii humbly asks for your support of SB 2469 which provides for the elimination of future budget reductions and the return to established funding levels for critical programs and services for our most vulnerable population.

Sincerely,



Anastasia Keller-Collins

Vice President, Program Development
Easter Seals Hawaii



COUNTY OF KAUA'I
AGENCY ON ELDERLY AFFAIRS

Senate Committees on Human Services, Health, Judiciary and Government Operations
Thursday, February 4, 2010

Testimony of Ludvina Takahashi, County Executive on Aging
Support of SB 2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund.

The County of Kaua'i Agency on Elderly Affairs is in full support of SB 2469 which would provide funds for further development of the **Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC)** and Hawai'i's aging network's capacity to effectively embed two of the programs currently being implemented, **Ke Ola Pono**, the **Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (CDSMP)** and **EnhanceFitness**, a physical activity program for older adults. This bill would support the statewide Healthy Aging Partnership – Empowering Elders' (HAPEE) initiative by appropriating funds to supplement its development statewide.

This appropriation would help to support two of three major initiatives under the Federal Administration on Aging's **Choices for Independence**. These initiatives, which are being carried out in the State of Hawaii and in our county, empowers elders: 1) to make informed decisions about, and be able to access existing health and long-term care options, primarily through the ADRC development, and 2) to stay active and healthy through the use of evidence-based disease and disability prevention programs in our communities.

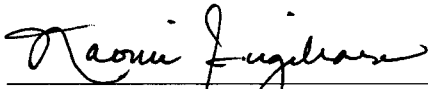
The KAEA has been a part of the Healthy Aging initiative for over six years. Since 2007, the KAEA has been working together with its local partnership to provide the **EnhanceFitness** program, which has now expanded to six sites and seven classes here on Kaua'i. We have witnessed the impact on the lives of our seniors who participate at these one hour classes offered 3 times a week. The seniors have enjoyed the classes and the overall benefits of increased strength, flexibility, balance, and stamina. They especially look forward to the opportunity for socialization in this group exercise program which, for some, helps to address periods of depression. Performance measures have also shown significant improvement in their lower body strength and agility and balance, which is critical to the prevention of falls in older adults.

Last year, we also began implementation of the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program, in partnership with the Kaua'i District Health Office. Through this program, older adults with chronic illnesses are empowered to do goal setting and action planning with a 6-week series of classes, learning about nutrition, medication management, and other topics to help them to better manage their health.

The evidence is overwhelming that older adults who make healthier choices live longer and

better lives. Maintaining good health enables older people to make behavioral changes that will reduce their risk of disease, disability, and injury which also translates to reduced healthcare costs. The KAEA and its partners have been ***Working Together for a Strong, Healthy Kaua'i*** and is committed to empower our older adults to live well and age well.

We appreciate your consideration and thank you for this opportunity to offer testimony in favor of this bill.


for (Ms.) Ludvina Takahashi
County Executive on Aging

NSS

To: The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair of the Senate Human Services Committee
The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair of the Senate Health Committee
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair of the Senate Judiciary and Government Operations Committee

From: Wanda Villareal, Director of Developmental Services
Laura Robertson, President/CEO
Goodwill Industries of Hawaii, Inc.

Date: February 1, 2010

Re: **Testimony in Support of S.B. 2469 – Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

Goodwill Industries of Hawaii, Inc. (“Goodwill”) submits this testimony in support of Senate Bill 2469, specifically for the Developmental Disabilities Medicaid Waiver. 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. Medicaid Waiver programs are essential for the public health, safety, welfare and education of individuals with developmental disabilities.

In order to meet the projected 2009 budget short fall, last year the Department of Health-Developmental Disabilities Division’s (“DOH-DDD”) implemented immediate mandated budget reductions 15% or greater budget reductions to individuals receiving Medicaid Home & Community-Based Waiver Services (H&CBS).

Individuals and families were forced to immediately reduce critical services and necessary programs, such as those operated by Goodwill. In some cases, families had to choose between taking a shift at their job or caring for their dependent disabled family member, creating more difficult economic circumstances for families.

Goodwill is in strong support of Senate Bill 2469. The emergency and budget reserve fund of \$7,000,000 for the Developmental Disabilities Medicaid Waiver program should be used as this program is essential for the health, safety, welfare and education of individuals with developmental disabilities. The DOH-DDD’s mandated budget reductions, implemented last year, should be reversed as soon as possible.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.



SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Senator David Ige, Chair

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
Senator Brian Taniguchi, Chair

Conference Room 016
Feb. 4, 2010 at 2:15 p.m.

Supporting SB 2469.

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii represents its member organizations that span the entire spectrum of health care, including all acute care hospitals, as well as long term care facilities, home care agencies, and hospices. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SB 2469, which makes an appropriation from the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund for health, human services, and education.

The downturn in the local, national, and global economies have resulted in reduced State tax collections, making it impossible to maintain existing State programs with current revenues. Fortunately, the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund was established for just this kind of circumstance. Money was deposited into the fund during better economic times. The fund can now fulfill its stated purpose of making money available in times of emergency, economic downturn, or unforeseen reduction in revenues in order to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to public health, safety, welfare, and education.

This bill makes various appropriations from the fund for this purpose. The Healthcare Association is encouraged, particularly because the bill includes funding for Disproportionate Share Hospital costs. This appropriation would help hospitals reduce their expenses for care that they have provided to low-income patients who do not have health care insurance and who do not have the financial resources to pay for their care. Hospitals incurred uncompensated costs totaling \$141 million in 2008, and this appropriation would help reduce that amount.

For the foregoing reasons the Healthcare Association supports SB 2469.



Email to: HMSTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov
Hearing on: February 4, 2010 @ 2:15 p.m.
Conference Room 016

DATE: February 2, 2010

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

FROM: Dennis Arakaki, Executive Director

RE: SUPPORT FOR SB 2469, Relating to the Emergency & Budget Reserve Fund

Honorable Chair Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Vice Chair Ihara and members of the Senate Committee on Human Services, I am Dennis Arakaki, **representing both the Hawaii Family Forum and the Roman Catholic Church in the State of Hawaii.**

Hawaii Family Forum is a non-profit, pro-family education organization committed to preserving and strengthening families in Hawaii, representing a network of over 250 Christian churches. The Hawaii Catholic Conference is the public policy arm of the Roman Catholic Church in Hawaii, which under the leadership of Bishop Larry Silva, represents over 220,000 Catholics in Hawaii.

We are in strong support of this bill that appropriates money from the emergency and budget reserve to maintain levels of programs for education, human services, and health. Let me start by saying that having worked with you on previous "Rainy Day Fund Bills," I can appreciate the work and heart that is reflected in this measure. It was hard to decide who the beneficiaries of the bill would be back then and I imagine even more difficult with the many current competing needs.

Let me also say that I believe the intent of the fund was to address the "safety net" programs that could even mean the life or death of a client. I do not believe the Rainy Day fund was meant to help balance the budget, to leverage collective bargaining or specifically to eliminate furlough days at our schools. The cost of educating our children should be a core function that should be funded by General Funds that must be given priority and not categorized as discretionary funding.

I have no argument against the services being listed in SB 2469, I would only ask that a line item be added to address one of the pressing needs of the now shredded "safety net," the crisis of the mentally ill who are underserved or unserved. We see the impact of the massive reduction of adult mental health case managers resulting in a number of cases of clients who either end up hurting themselves or hurting others, not to mention the growing number of homeless mentally ill.

Thank you for allowing me to testify and share my mana'o regarding this very critical measure.

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, Aloha Habilitation Services, Inc.

Lani Bair, The Institute for Family Enrichment

Charles Braden, Responsive Caregivers of Hawaii

Anastasia Keller-Collins, Easter Seals Hawai'i

Vicki Linter, The Arc of Hilo

Honorary: Ellen Ching, Easter Seals Hawaii

Charter Member Agencies

•Goodwill Industries of Hawai'i, Inc.

•Lanakila Rehabilitation Center, Inc.

•SECOH

•The Arc in Hawaii

Sustaining Member Agencies

•Easter Seals Hawaii

•Mastercare, Inc.

Basic Member Agencies

•Aloha Habilitation Services, Inc.

•CARE Hawaii

•Catholic Charities Hawaii

•Full Life Corporation

•Heaven's Helpers, Inc.

•Ka Lima O'Maui

•Molokai Occupational Center

•Nursefinders of Hawai'i

•Preferred Home & Community Based Services

•Responsive Caregivers of Hawaii

•The Arc of Hilo

•The Arc of Kona

•The Institute for Family Enrichment

•Winners at Work, Inc., dba Abilities Unlimited



Hawaii Waiver Providers Association

February 2, 2010

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair of the Senate Human Services Committee

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair of the Senate Health Committee

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair of the Senate Judiciary and Government Operations Committee

From: Wanda Villareal, President
Hawaii Waiver Providers Association

Re: **Testimony in Support of S.B 2469 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

The Hawaii Waiver Providers Association (HWPAA) is a statewide association comprised of 20 Developmental Disabilities Medicaid Waiver 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.

The Hawaii Waiver Providers Association (“HWPAA”) submits this testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2469.

In order to meet the projected budget short fall for 2009, The Department of Health-Developmental Disabilities Division’s (“DOH-DDD”) implemented immediate mandated budget reductions 15% or greater budget reductions to individuals receiving Medicaid Home & Community based Waiver Services (H&CBS). 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.

Waiver programs are essential for the health, welfare and safety of individuals with developmental disabilities. The emergency and budget reserve fund in the amount of \$7,000,000 should be used to maintain the level of programs for individuals with developmental disabilities.

We humbly ask for your support of Senate Bill 2469 which provides for the elimination of future budget reductions and the return to established funding levels for critical programs and services for our most vulnerable population.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

February 1, 2010

To: Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Senate Committee on Human Chair

Sen. David Ige, Senate Committee on Health Chair

Sen. Brian Taniguchi, Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations
Chair

Members of the Senate Committees on Human Services, Health and Judiciary and
Government Operations

From: **Sandra Kam**

RE: **Support for SB 2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

Hearing Date: Thursday, February 4, 2010

Time: 2:15 pm

Place: Conference Room 016

Dear Chairs and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **SUPPORT of SB 2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**. My name is Sandra Kam and I am a Hawaii Resident and Waikiki Community Center member and instructor.

I am part of the Steptaculars, a group of volunteer tap dance performers who are over the age of 65, under the auspices of Waikiki Community Center. We perform all over the state at care homes and retirement homes every week and represent the Waikiki community. I volunteer to teach a tap class and take two tap classes. I have been a member of the Waikiki Community Center for about 4 years. Being a member here has improved my health, changed my posture and I've lost 10 pounds since participating in these activities. I think it helps improve my memory because I have to learn all these routines. I've made a lot of great friends.

The Waikiki Community Center is an important part of my life and my ability to keep active and healthy. Its Senior Program is an important focal point for the people who live in the Waikiki community. Through this program, Waikiki's many older residents are able to receive a variety of services, including activities and classes that promote physical fitness, cognitive stimulation, and social connections as well as case management and counseling when their needs change. Many older residents in Waikiki rely upon the Waikiki Community Center as a place to come to for assistance and being a part of the community. Their range of services enable Waikiki's older residents to stay fit, connected with their community and remain independent in their own homes for as long as possible.

I ask for your support of SB 2469 and that you please provide the funding that will support Senior Centers and the programs of the Waikiki Community Center. WCC serves as a hub for wellness activities and social connectivity and meaningful participation in our community. It is important to keep its doors open for Waikiki's elders. Thank you.

SB 2469
Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund
Including the Healthy Aging Partnership Programs

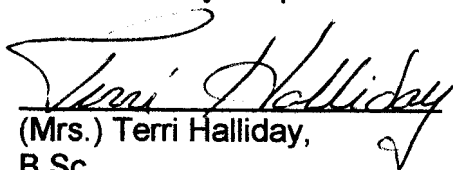
Testimony from: Terri Halliday
Kauai EnhanceFitness Program Master Trainer
and Fifty Plus Lifelong Fitness Ambassador
Kaua'i Healthy Aging Project Partner

February 2, 2010

Fifty Plus Lifelong Fitness is in full support of the County of Kaua'i Agency of Elderly Affairs' (AEA) intent to be favorably considered when the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund is being discussed. Sustaining both the EnhanceFitness (EF) and the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (CDSMP) is of the upmost importance. Both programs are evidence-based, having been tested and researched over many years, with a proven track record of effectiveness. The response to these programs on Kauai has been very positive and extremely beneficial for our senior community. We now have 7 EF classes that meet three times per week and are on target with the CDSMP schedule.

Fifty Plus Lifelong Fitness has been an active partner over the last five plus years with Kauai's Healthy Aging Project. As a volunteer ambassador for Fifty Plus Lifelong Fitness, I am an advocate for programs that address the health and well-being of older adults. My mission is to work with organizations and individuals to enhance the health and quality of life of people over fifty through regular physical activity and health/nutrition education. Being involved with the Healthy Aging Project as a partner and the Master Trainer for EnhanceFitness has allowed me to share my 30+ years of expertise in the health and fitness field. Our main objective is to improve the health status of our senior population. We have successfully implemented programs that provide appropriate and safe healthy aging practices, as well as offering an evidence-based component. Attendance and performance results are tracked on a regular basis.

We support the AEA's effort in its request to be considered for funding to continue the Healthy Aging Project on Kaua'i through the EnhanceFitness and CDSMP programs. Our goal is to motivate and empower our seniors to enjoy active and healthy lifestyles and ultimately keep health care costs to a minimum. Thank you for your consideration.


(Mrs.) Terri Halliday,

B.Sc.,

Certified Fitness Instructor and Personal Fitness Trainer
EF Master Trainer/Fifty Plus Lifelong Fitness Ambassador

**Senate Committees on Human Services, Health, Judiciary and Government Operations
Thursday, February 4, 2010**

**Testimony of EnhanceFitness participants
Support of SB 2469 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

As participants of the EnhanceFitness program, we support SB 2469 which would provide funds in the sum of \$250,000 funds in fiscal year 2010 – 2011 to continue the work that was started in the state and here on Kaua'i to keep seniors healthy and strong.

The County of Kaua'i Agency on Elderly Affairs has been working on the Healthy Aging Project on behalf of Kaua'i seniors for a number of years, and since 2007, the KAEA and partners have been working together to provide the EnhanceFitness program. There are seven classes offered at six sites here on Kaua'i. We participate at these one hour classes 3 times a week and have experienced for ourselves the benefits of having more energy, strength and endurance, better posture and balance, which is very important as we get older to help prevent falls. We also enjoy the fellowship and friendships that we have made from our participation in the program.

We ask for your consideration and support of this bill. As older adults, we need to keep our mind, body, and spirit healthy for as long as possible. The EnhanceFitness program helps us to enjoy a better quality of life as we get older. Thank you for this opportunity to offer testimony in favor of SB 2469.

Renee Burson
Mary Flemeke
Watsuro Ozeki
April Raymond
Kay Naito
356-24-1124
Madelin I. Yamachi
Yoshiro Hirayuki
Jane Grady
Marjorie Konishi
Jane Britz
Marian Ogata
Betty Yamamoto
Sally Hayashida
Charles D. Hill

Zay Burson
John Cox
Pacita A. Jimenez
Deane E. Horita
Aileen Fujikura
Claire Kashiwaba
Gary Sugahara
James Takahashi
Ana Navarro
Elizabeth Malapet
Matsuko & Dor
Hirotoko Oshima
Yukiko N. Yamane
Gladys Fujimichi
Ellie Lloyd
Blago R. Orada

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

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair
Committee on Judiciary and
Government Operations

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

DATE: Thursday, February 4, 2010 (2:15 p.m., Room 016)

RE: **Support of SB 2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

Please support the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and its membership of nearly 2,000 senior citizens with additional State funding in the amount of \$200,000.

My name is Slim Nishizawa. Please keep the center going for the sake of all the senior citizens. We need a place like the center to keep us going. We are too old to look for job, so the only thing we can do to keep us busy is to come to the center.

Please make additional funds for senior centers, like Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, a priority so that seniors like me can remain independent in the community! Thank you.

Sincerely,

S. Nishizawa, Shizjuchi
84 yrs. old

District

Rep # 26

Sen. # 11

268 San Antonio Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96813

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

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair
Committee on Judiciary and
Government Operations

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

DATE: Thursday, February 4, 2010 (2:15 p.m., Room 016)

RE: Support of SB 2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Please support the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and its membership of nearly 2,000 senior citizens with additional State funding in the amount of \$200,000.

I started with Lanakila Sr. Center around 10 years ago. I really learned and grasped lots of interesting things about the different cultural groups. Also learned many things about different crafts and spoke to people at the center, and got plenty things and articles I cherish. Thank to Lanakila Sr. Center for having this opportunity - Keep up the good work!

Please make additional funds for senior centers, like Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, a priority so that seniors like me can remain independent in the community! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Eleanor S. Mizuno

78 yrs. old

2407 Kula Kolea Dr.
Honolulu, HI 96819

Lives in districts:

- Rep. Mizuno
- Sen. Kim

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

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair
Committee on Judiciary and
Government Operations

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

DATE: Thursday, February 4, 2010 (2:15 p.m., Room 016)

RE: **Support of SB 2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

Please support the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and its membership of nearly 2,000 senior citizens with additional State funding in the amount of \$200,000.

Lanakila keeps me busy + healthy by the classes and activities I attend.

I am happy to have a place I can come to to meet + make friends.

If I ~~stayed~~ ^{stayed} at home I would be very depressed.
I look forward to come here every week.

Please make additional funds for senior centers, like Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, a priority so that seniors like me can remain independent in the community! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jane Ayako Yamashiro
81 years old

95-206 Henata Pl
Mililani, HI 96718

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

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair
Committee on Judiciary and
Government Operations

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

DATE: Thursday, February 4, 2010 (2:15 p.m., Room 016)

RE: **Support of SB 2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

Please support the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and its membership of nearly 2,000 senior citizens with additional State funding in the amount of \$200,000.

I am a member of this center for 25 years and am 93 yrs. old. Coming to the Ctr. 3X a week has kept me young looking and healthy.

We really need donation especially by the Legislature and the government.

We really need additional funds.

Please make additional funds for senior centers, like Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, a priority so that seniors like me can remain independent in the community! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gladys Takamoto

1846 A Makuahine St.
Honolulu, HI 96817
Age 93

Lives in districts

- Rep. Mizuno

- Sen. Kim

- Council Member Tam

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

715 SOUTH KING STREET, SUITE 311 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 • AREA CODE 808 • PHONE: 768-7762 • FAX: 768-7792

MUFI HANNEMANN
MAYOR



DEBORAH KIM MORIKAWA
DIRECTOR

ERNEST Y. MARTIN
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 1, 2010

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Human Services
The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Health
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations
The Senate
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Chun-Oakland, Ige, Taniguchi, and Members:

**Subject: In Support of S.B. 2469
Relating to the Emergency Budget and
Reserve Fund**

The City and County of Honolulu's Elderly Affairs Division is Honolulu's designated Area Agency on Aging and operates in accordance with the Older Americans Act of 1965 to coordinate, advocate, and improve services to assist older persons in leading independent, meaningful, and dignified lives in their own homes and communities for as long as possible. We are in support of S.B. 2469, Relating to the Emergency Budget and Reserve Fund.

This omnibus bill includes funding for many programs that support the needs of the increasing population of elderly residents in Hawaii. We strongly support funding for the following programs:

Kupuna Care
Aging and Disability Resource Centers
Healthy Aging Partnership Program
Senior Centers

The funding included in this bill would be essential to maintaining the health and welfare of senior citizens in Hawaii.

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Human Services
The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Health
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Judiciary
and Government Operations
February 1, 2010
Page 2

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Sincerely,



Deborah Kim Morikawa
Director



Elizabeth Bethea
County Executive on Aging
Elderly Affairs Division

CY:ab
sb 2469



94-450 Mokuola Street, Suite 106, Waipahu, HI 96767
808.675.7300 | www.ohanahealthplan.com

February 4, 2010

To: The Honorable Suzanne N.J. Chun Oakland
Chair, Senate Committee on Human Services

The Honorable David Y. Ige
Chair, Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi
Chair, Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations

From: 'Ohana Health Plan

Re: Senate Bill 2469-Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Hearing: Thursday, February 4, 2010, 2:15 p.m.
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 016

'Ohana Health Plan is a health plan offered by WellCare Health Insurance of Arizona, Inc. WellCare is a leading provider of managed care services dedicated to government-sponsored health care programs, focusing on Medicaid and Medicare. We operate a variety of health plans for families, children, the aged, blind or disabled as well as prescription drug plans and private fee-for-service plans. Our local team of over 140 Hawai'i residents have been serving approximately 22,500 low-income, aged, blind, and disabled clients through the QUEST Expanded Access (QExA) program since February 1, 2009.

We appreciate this opportunity to submit our comments in strong support of Senate Bill 2469-Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund, specifically Sections 19 and 28.

'Ohana Health Plan (OHP) is one of the five health care plans contracted under the QUEST program through the Department of Human Services (DHS). As a new plan, operating largely with the support of government funding from the State of Hawai'i, we are deeply concerned about the potential for a three to four month payment deferral. This deferral may significantly impact our ability to pay our contracted providers in a timely manner and could cause a disruption in services to our members, which are low-income, aged, blind and disabled residents of our State.

As a contracted provider of services for the State of Hawai'i, we take our federally mandated responsibility to make covered services available and accessible through a sufficient delivery network very seriously. Section 19 appropriates \$7,000,000 to the DHS allowing the agency to avoid delaying payment to the health care plans contracted under QUEST.

OHP deeply appreciates your assistance in helping to secure additional funding into the HMS 401 budget in order to avoid the DHS payment deferral in the first place. We respectfully request that you pass this measure. Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments on this measure.

February 1, 2010

To: Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Senate Committee on Human Chair

Sen. David Ige, Senate Committee on Health Chair

Sen. Brian Taniguchi, Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations
Chair

Members of the Senate Committees on Human Services, Health and Judiciary and
Government Operations

From: **Manjit Reddick**

RE: **Support for SB 2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

Hearing Date: Thursday, February 4, 2010

Time: 2:15 pm

Place: Conference Room 016

Dear Chairs and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **SUPPORT of SB 2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**. My name is Manjit Reddick and I am a Waikiki Community Center member.

My husband, Ron Reddick, and I are members of the volunteer dance group at WCC called the Step-taculars which performs throughout the city at various venues. As a part of our performances we inform the audiences of the programs offered for seniors at WCC. We often speak of the important services that Waikiki Community Center provides for older adults, including preventative health and health maintenance activities, that keep them active, engaged and productive. We are fortunate to have the ability to be financially stable and healthy. Through the Waikiki Community Center, we are able to maintain our health through active participation. We know that for our many of our less fortunate fellow seniors, Waikiki Community Center provides them with the help and support to keep them living independently in the community.

The Waikiki Community Center's Senior Program is an important focal point for the Waikiki community. Many older residents in Waikiki rely upon the Waikiki Community Center as a place to come to for assistance and being a part of the community. Their range of services enable Waikiki's older residents to stay fit, connected with their community and remain independent in their own homes for as long as possible.

I ask for your support of SB2469 and that you please provide the funding that will support Senior Centers and the programs of the Waikiki Community Center. WCC serves as a hub for wellness activities and social connectivity and meaningful participation in our community. It is important to keep its doors open for Waikiki's elders. Thank you.



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 4, 2010

**Special Education
Advisory Council**

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

Ms. Brendelyn Ancheta
Ms. Sue Brown
Ms. Deborah Cheeseman
Ms. Annette Cooper
Ms. Phyllis DeKok
Ms. Mary Ellis
Ms. Debra Farmer
Ms. Gabriele Finn
Ms. Martha Guinan
Mr. Henry Hashimoto
Dr. Martin Hirsch
Ms. Tami Ho
Ms. Barbara Ioli
Ms. Shanelle Lum
Ms. Rachel Matsunobu
Ms. June Motokawa
Ms. Kristy Nishimura, *Liaison
to the Superintendent*
Ms. Connie Perry
Ms. Barbara Pretty
Ms. Kau'i Rezentos
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
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: SB 2469 – RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND
BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Dear Senators Chun Oakland, Ige, and Taniguchi 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 2469 to utilize monies from the emergency and budget reserve fund to provide a safety net of basic human services, health and education needs for Hawaii residents and families. While SEAC is 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, we must also advocate for health, vocational and family support services which all contribute to positive educational outcomes for students with disabilities.

In particular, SEAC is 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 restoration of 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. Monies appropriated last session for the Department of Health Respite Fund, which provides much needed family support to six populations of individuals with disabilities and serious medical conditions, was designated to be spent in an account



Testimony re: SB 2469

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February 4, 2010

which could not be used for that purpose. As a result, there are NO respite dollars this fiscal year that can be accessed by the families for whom the DOH Respite Fund was created.

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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ivalee Sinclair", on a light-colored rectangular background.

Ivalee Sinclair, Chair

February 1, 2010

To: Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Senate Committee on Human Chair

Sen. David Ige, Senate Committee on Health Chair

Sen. Brian Taniguchi, Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations
Chair

Members of the Senate Committees on Human Services, Health and Judiciary and
Government Operations

From: Jeffrey Apaka

RE: **Support for SB 2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

Hearing Date: Thursday, February 4, 2010

Time: 2:15 pm

Place: Conference Room 016

Dear Chairs and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **SUPPORT of SB2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**. My name is Jeff Apaka and I am a resident of Waikiki. I also am a member of the Waikiki Neighborhood Board No. 9.

The Waikiki Community Center's Senior Program is an important focal point for the Waikiki community. Through this program, Waikiki's many older residents are able to receive a variety of services, including activities and classes that promote physical fitness, cognitive stimulation, and social connections as well as case management and counseling when their needs change. Many older residents in Waikiki rely upon the Waikiki Community Center as a place to come to for assistance and being a part of the community. Their range of services enable Waikiki's older residents to stay fit, connected with their community and remain independent in their own homes for as long as possible. It is important to for the quality of life for Waikiki's older residents Waikiki Community Center to continue to provide services for older adults.

I ask for your support of SB2469 and that you please provide the funding that will support Senior Centers and the programs of the Waikiki Community Center. WCC serves as a hub for wellness activities and social connectivity and meaningful participation in our community. It is important to keep its doors open for Waikiki's elders. Thank you.

February 1, 2010

To: Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Senate Committee on Human Chair
Sen. David Ige, Senate Committee on Health Chair
Sen. Brian Taniguchi, Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations Chair
Members of the Senate Committees on Human Services, Health and Judiciary and Government Operations

From: Lillian Chace

RE: **Support for SB 2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

Hearing Date: Thursday, February 4, 2010

Time: 2:15 pm

Place: Conference Room 016

Dear Chairs and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **SUPPORT of SB2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**. My name is Lillian Chace and I am a member, participant and volunteer at the Waikiki Community Center (WCC).

I first came to the WCC about three years ago. I was new in Hawaii and someone told me about the Center. For me, the Waikiki Community Center proved to be an important lifeline as I had just arrived and had no family or friends in Hawaii. At this place, I was able to make good friends and get established in my new community. Many residents in Waikiki are like me and have come to rely and depend on the Waikiki Community Center as a place to come to for assistance and being a part of the community.

At the WCC, I have participated in classes as well as taken advantage of the group excursions that are offered. As a single person without personal transportation, these group excursions have been a way for me to participate in educational activities and become more appreciative of the beauty and culture that is unique to Hawaii.

I am active on the Senior Advisory Council, provide orientation for new members, assist with the newsletter and assist with other tasks when asked. The personal connections I have made there have been valuable and the friendships are something special.

The services and activities at WCC help me stay fit and alert and have enabled me to continue to live independently in my community.

I ask for your support of SB2469 and that you please provide the funding that will support Senior Centers and the programs of the Waikiki Community Center. WCC serves as a hub for wellness activities and social connectivity and meaningful participation in our community. It is important to keep its doors open for elders like me. Thank you.

February 1, 2010

To: Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Senate Committee on Human Chair

Sen. David Ige, Senate Committee on Health Chair

Sen. Brian Taniguchi, Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations Chair

Members of the Senate Committees on Human Services, Health and Judiciary and Government Operations

From: Louise Guerrero

RE: **Support for SB 2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

Hearing Date: Thursday, February 4, 2010

Time: 2:15 pm

Place: Conference Room 016

Dear Chairs and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **SUPPORT of SB2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**. My name is Louise Guerrero and I am a member and participant of Waikiki Community Center.

Since 1997, I have been an outstanding member of Waikiki Community Center (WCC). I live in Pearl City and I commute once a week to WCC and have the last fourteen (14) years. I have bypassed in joining other community centers closer to my home and prefer WCC because of the camaraderie and the support that they give to their members. I like WCC because I feel as if I'm a member of an extended family. I became interested in singing and was a member of WCC's Singers. I later joined the volunteer tap dancing group called Step-taculars and enjoy performing with them at WCC, hospitals, care homes, and at senior health & wellness fairs. As an active volunteer and participant, I believe that WCC truly makes a difference in the lives of seniors through their activities and services.

The Waikiki Community Center's Senior Program is an important focal point for the Waikiki community. Through this program, Waikiki's many older residents are able to receive a variety of services, including activities and classes that promote physical fitness, cognitive stimulation, and social connections as well as case management and counseling when their needs change. Many older residents in Waikiki rely upon the Waikiki Community Center as a place to come to for assistance and being a part of the community. Their range of services enable Waikiki's older residents to stay fit, connected with their community and remain independent in their own homes for as long as possible.

I ask for your support of SB2469 and that you please provide the funding that will support Senior Centers and the programs of the Waikiki Community Center. WCC serves as a hub for wellness activities and social connectivity and meaningful participation in our community. It is important to keep its doors open for Waikiki's elders. Thank you.

February 1, 2010

To: Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Senate Committee on Human Chair
Sen. David Ige, Senate Committee on Health Chair
Sen. Brian Taniguchi, Senate Committee on Judiciary and
Government Operations Chair
Members of the Senate Committees on Human Services, Health
and Judiciary and Government Operations

From: Mary Guidroz

RE: **Support for SB 2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve
Fund**

Hearing Date: Thursday, February 4, 2010

Time: 2:15 pm

Place: Conference Room 016

Chairs and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **SUPPORT** of SB2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund. My name is Mary Guidroz and I am a member, participant and volunteer at the Waikiki Community Center. I am 87, nearly 88 years old, live by myself, and I have been a member for 13 years.

In the past I have participated in many classes including Line Dancing, taken various excursions around the island led by WCC staff and really been kept healthy by joining in the many educational and healthy activities at WCC. I am a diabetic and they bring in speakers to help me keep up with my diabetes. In addition, I really look forward to being with the many friends I have made and meeting new people. This has been a great part of my benefit from the Waikiki Community Center because I know people look for me to be there and look out for me if I don't show up.

The Social Worker helped me last year when I forgot to fill out my Medicaid forms on time and my benefits had lapsed. She helped me get those back right away and she helps me keep my other records current such as Medicare, and Food Stamps. The Waikiki Community Center is so important to me because I count on those services so I can stay living independently.

I support the Waikiki Community Center and I hope you will too by approving SB2469. Thank you.

February 1, 2010

To: Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Senate Committee on Human Chair

Sen. David Ige, Senate Committee on Health Chair

Sen. Brian Taniguchi, Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations
Chair

Members of the Senate Committees on Human Services, Health and Judiciary and
Government Operations

From: Kathryn Heller

RE: **Support for SB 2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

Hearing Date: Thursday, February 4, 2010

Time: 2:15 pm

Place: Conference Room 016

Dear Chairs and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **SUPPORT of SB2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**. My name is Kathryn Heller and I am Hawaii Resident and Waikiki Community Center member.

I have been a member for about 4 years. I take Tap Dancing and sometimes perform with the Steptaculars. This has allowed me to rekindle my love for Tap. The exercise is beneficial, the new friendships are very valuable and it keeps my mind and body active. It gives me a much needed break from my caregiving responsibilities for my husband. This helps me take care of myself so I can continue to take care of him. I do go to the Farmers Market and benefit from shopping there. I also took advantage of having a massage at the Center and I appreciate the affordable rate which enables me to have a much needed massage that helps me to relax.

The Waikiki Community Center's Senior Program is an important focal point for the Waikiki community. Through this program, Waikiki's many older residents are able to receive a variety of services, including activities and classes that promote physical fitness, cognitive stimulation, and social connections as well as case management and counseling when their needs change. Many older residents in Waikiki rely upon the Waikiki Community Center as a place to come to for assistance and being a part of the community. Their range of services enable Waikiki's older residents to stay fit, connected with their community and remain independent in their own homes for as long as possible.

I ask for your support of SB2469 and that you please provide the funding that will support Senior Centers and the programs of the Waikiki Community Center. WCC serves as a hub for wellness activities and social connectivity and meaningful participation in our community. It is important to keep its doors open for Waikiki's elders. Thank you.

February 1, 2010

To: Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Senate Committee on Human Chair

Sen. David Ige, Senate Committee on Health Chair

Sen. Brian Taniguchi, Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations
Chair

Members of the Senate Committees on Human Services, Health and Judiciary and
Government Operations

From: Patricia Peters

RE: **Support for SB 2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

Hearing Date: Thursday, February 4, 2010

Time: 2:15 pm

Place: Conference Room 016

Dear Chairs and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **SUPPORT of SB 2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**. My name is Patricia Peters and I am member of the Waikiki Community Center and a Hawaii Resident.

I go to the Waikiki Community Center daily and participate in a variety of activities. I volunteer to help them with what they need and enjoy meeting my friends each day. I look forward to coming to the center every day. I am not able to afford very much since I only receive social security income, but the Waikiki Community Center provides a place for me to be active and meet other people. Otherwise, I would have no place to go and only watch TV at home. I live with my children, but they don't pay much attention to me and I feel that they abuse me sometimes. With the Waikiki Community Center, I have a safe place to be with activities and friends who make me happy.

The Waikiki Community Center's Senior Program is an important focal point for the Waikiki community. Through this program, Waikiki's many older residents are able to receive a variety of services, including activities and classes that promote physical fitness, cognitive stimulation, and social connections as well as case management and counseling when their needs change. Many older residents in Waikiki rely upon the Waikiki Community Center as a place to come to for assistance and being a part of the community. Their range of services enable Waikiki's older residents to stay fit, connected with their community and remain independent in their own homes for as long as possible.

I ask for your support of SB2469 and that you please provide the funding that will support Senior Centers and the programs of the Waikiki Community Center. WCC serves as a hub for wellness activities and social connectivity and meaningful participation in our community. It is important to keep its doors open for Waikiki's elders. Thank you.

February 1, 2010

To: Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Senate Committee on Human Chair

Sen. David Ige, Senate Committee on Health Chair

Sen. Brian Taniguchi, Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations Chair

Members of the Senate Committees on Human Services, Health and Judiciary and Government Operations

From: Sybil Tsukamoto

RE: **Support for SB 2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

Hearing Date: Thursday, February 4, 2010

Time: 2:15 pm

Place: Conference Room 016

Dear Chairs and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **SUPPORT of SB2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**. My name is Sybil Tsukamoto and I am Waikiki Community Center member and participant.

I take three tap dance classes a week at the Waikiki Community Center. I have also taken the origami class and have been on different outings throughout the island. Participating in tap dance class has been physical therapy for me because I had a weak right knee and climbing stairs was a major problem. I no longer have to cling to the railing as a result of the dance classes. It has built the muscles around my knee so that I have better stability. With the physical disability I had, I had one leg twice the size of the other. Since taking the tap, my legs are now the same size. I was apprehensive at first about the class but was welcomed and encouraged by the others. When you're a Senior, you spend a lot of time at home alone and a very important part of the class is the wonderful social interaction. There is so much to be gained by sharing with others. It makes your own problems seem smaller. I like learning new skills and I have made great friendships – thanks to what the Waikiki Community Center offers to seniors like me.

The Waikiki Community Center's Senior Program is an important focal point for the Waikiki community. Through this program, Waikiki's many older residents are able to receive a variety of services, including activities and classes that promote physical fitness, cognitive stimulation, and social connections as well as case management and counseling when their needs change. Many older residents in Waikiki rely upon the Waikiki Community Center as a place to come to for assistance and being a part of the community. Their range of services enable Waikiki's older residents to stay fit, connected with their community and remain independent in their own homes for as long as possible.

I ask for your support of SB 2469 and that you please provide the funding that will support Senior Centers and the programs of the Waikiki Community Center. WCC serves as a hub for wellness activities and social connectivity and meaningful participation in our community. It is important to keep its doors open for Waikiki's elders. Thank you.

February 1, 2010

To: Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Senate Committee on Human Chair

Sen. David Ige, Senate Committee on Health Chair

Sen. Brian Taniguchi, Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations
Chair

Members of the Senate Committees on Human Services, Health and Judiciary and
Government Operations

From: Karen Van Tine

RE: **Support for SB 2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

Hearing Date: Thursday, February 4, 2010

Time: 2:15 pm

Place: Conference Room 016

Dear Chairs and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **SUPPORT of SB2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**. My name is Karen Van Tine and I am a member, participant and volunteer at the Waikiki Community Center. My husband and I are residents of Waikiki and have been going to the Waikiki Community Center for about 8 years.

For me, the Waikiki Community Center has provided opportunities for social connections, an emphasis on healthy lifestyle activities, a variety of education opportunities and most importantly an opportunity to learn about and appreciate the uniqueness of the Hawaiian culture. We keep active and healthy by participating in WCC.

Friends I have met at the center have become good friends with whom I share other activities outside of the center. Preventative screenings such as glaucoma, hearing and blood pressure have kept us abreast of subtle changes in our health and given us a way to monitor it.

Many of our friends at Waikiki Community Center are not as fortunate in their aging as we are, facing ill health, emergencies and other challenges which they find confusing, daunting and discouraging. In these and other situations, Waikiki Community Center has offered aid and assistance, providing information, counseling and needed support to elders in distress.

I urge you to support SB2469 and do all you can to help maintain the current services of Waikiki Community Center's necessary program so that Waikiki seniors can continue to have a place to turn to help with their needs.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



Board of Directors

February 1, 2010

Carolyn Wong
Chair

TO: The Honorable Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
The Honorable Sen. David Ige, Chair
The Honorable Sen. Brian Taniguchi, Chair
Members of the Senate Committees on Human Services, Health and
Judiciary and Government Operations

Rick Egged
1st Vice Chair

Susan Todani
2nd Vice Chair

FROM: Joan Naguwa, Executive Director

Faye Chiogioji
Secretary

RE: **SUPPORT OF SB2469 - RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND
BUDGET RESERVE FUND**

Linda Lee
Treasurer

Hearing Date: Thursday, February 4, 2010
Time: 2:15 pm
Place: Conference Room 016

Jennifer Barrett

Gregory Boxold

Gregory Dunn

Dear Chairs Chun Oakland, Ige, and Taniguchi and Members of the Senate Committees on Human Services, Health and Judiciary and Government Operations:

David Givens

Maki Kuroda

My name is Joan Naguwa, Executive Director of Waikiki Community Center (WCC).
Waikiki Community Center **strongly supports SB2469, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund.**

David Lewin

Teri Matsukawa

Waikiki Community Center is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) agency which has provided services to Waikiki's elders since 1978 and currently serves over 500 older persons each year. SB 2469 provides funding for the network of senior centers on Oahu that provide vital fitness, cognitive stimulation, social connectivity, education and case management that enable thousands of older adults to maintain wellness and age in place for as long as possible. Passage of this bill is critical to the maintenance and continuation of services for the elderly people of Waikiki and other neighborhoods.

Leona Nakaahiki

Jim Nishimoto

Jessica Rich

Sheri Rolf

Noel Trainor

Although all independent nonprofit organizations, the senior centers (Lanakila Multipurpose Senior Center, Moiliili Community Center, Kapahulu Center and Waikiki Community Center) named in SB2469, collectively provide more than 4,000 older adults with a community-based focal point to receive needed services and activities that support their independence and avoid pre-mature institutionalization, thereby saving the State of Hawaii over \$100,000 per person annually in long-term care costs. Waikiki Community Center provides a wide variety of over 80 educational, recreational and social services, including health screenings, financial education, physical fitness classes, information and assistance, counseling and case management by a licensed social worker.

Vivian Tsuji

Joan Naguwa
Executive Director

Waikiki Community Center, as well as its partner senior centers, utilizes a preventative health, community-based model for services to older adults, with a focus on 3 major areas that national research documents as imperative to maintaining the ability to age in place:

310 Paoakalani Avenue
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815
Phone: 808 923-1802
Fax: 808 922-2099



-2-

- Physical Activity;
- New Learning or cognitive stimulation;
- and Social Connectivity

The importance of this 3 pronged approach is based on the following evidence: The Bureau of Labor and Statistics states that only 2% of adults aged 75 and older are involved in exercise or recreational activity. Fifty-four (54%) percent spent their time watching TV. It is well-established that physical activity has a positive effect on health, leading to better mental health and cognitive functioning. Exercise also reduces the risk of dementia by 50%, even among people who begin exercise after age 60.

According to research at the Rush Alzheimer's Disease Center, "Loneliness and Risk of Alzheimer's Disease", loneliness has a negative impact on cognitive health and increases the risk of dementia. Elders with higher loneliness scores may be twice as likely to develop dementia. In a study of 7 senior centers in 7 states, over 90% of seniors indicate that they have developed important close friendships at the senior center that provide them with needed emotional security.

WCC provides its seniors with physical and cognitive fitness and social opportunities, such as hula, dancing, ping pong, etc. For the elders of Waikiki, this is especially important. Approximately 25% of Waikiki's 20,000 residents are over the age of 60 years old. Waikiki has one of the highest numbers of senior citizens per area density on Oahu. Waikiki elders live alone among a proliferation of secured, mixed residential condominiums, and are especially at risk to social isolation and physical and cognitive deterioration. The typical elderly resident is female, mid 70's, living alone, with little or no family support systems nearby. When they become frailer, they have little choices of independent living and are often confused by services available to support them. Waikiki Community Center's continuum of services, ranging from health maintenance activities to case management and counseling provide the needed support to these elders.

Waikiki Community Center and other senior centers are cost-effective, preventative alternatives to costly institutionalization. The investment in senior centers now by the State of Hawaii will save thousands of dollars of long-term care costs in the future.

Two of the senior centers named in this bill, Lanakila Multipurpose Senior Center, through Catholic Charities Hawaii, and Moiliili Community Center currently receive funding through the Dept. of Health. However, both Waikiki Community Center and Kapahulu Center do not receive such funding and are not included in the Executive Budget.

While we understand the great financial challenges faced by the State of Hawaii during this time, **Waikiki Community Center is in serious jeopardy of discontinuing its services to seniors in the community.** We have already reduced some services to our seniors, furloughed program staff in order to keep the program operations available to the community, and will likely terminate case management and counseling services for older adults if funds are not secured.

We urge your support for the passage of SB2469. Thank you for this opportunity to submit our testimony. If you would like further information, please feel free to contact me at 923-1802 or via email, jnaguwa@waikikicommunitycenter.org.

