

**SB 2469, SD1**



*The Judiciary, State of Hawaii*

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means**

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair

The Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair

Wednesday, February 24, 2010, 10:10 a.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 211

by

Thomas R. Keller

Administrative Director of the Courts

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY**

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**Bill No. and Title:** Senate Bill No. 2469, S.D. 1, 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 33 of Senate Bill No. 2469, which appropriates monies 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 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



Senate Bill No. 2469, S.D. 1, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Senate Committees on Ways and Means

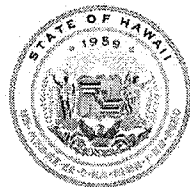
Wednesday, February 24, 2010

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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 34 through 38 which appropriate monies from the State Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund to be expended by the Judiciary to Volunteer Legal Services Hawai'i to provide pro bono legal services for indigent persons, to Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i to provide general legal services, to Hawai'i Family Law Center to provide services to obtain TROs, to Catholic Charities Hawai'i to provide intra-familial sex assault services, and to Children's Alliance of Hawaii to provide child sex assault services. It is likely that such 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 any funding amounts that might be 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, S.D. 1 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, S.D. 1.



**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 24, 2010

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways & Means  
Twenty-Fifth Legislature  
State Capitol  
State of Hawaii  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Mercado Kim and Members of the Committee:

**SUBJECT: SB 2469 SD1 – RELATING THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND**

The position and views expressed in these written comments 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 SD1**. 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 Council brings to your attention the following sections of the bill that address individuals with DD and their families:

1. **Page 5, Section 2, lines 1-4: 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. 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.

Senate Standing Committee Report No. 2270 indicated \$350,000 for respite services. That amount was based on FY 2009 expenditure reports for respite services provided by the Early Intervention Section and DD Division.

2. **Page 6, Section 7, lines 16-20: 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 is 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.

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.

- 3. Page 7, Section 9, lines 7-11: 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.

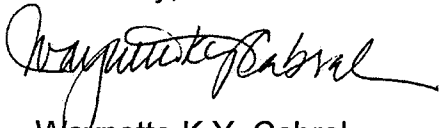
- 4. Page 13, Section 29, lines 3-6: Adult Dental Services.** The Council cannot emphasize enough the importance of comprehensive dental care services that include preventive, restorative, and emergency services for people with DD. We are all aware of how dental health, or the lack thereof, affects all 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.

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Page 4  
February 24, 2010

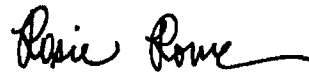
Dental care has been identified as one of the major health concerns, especially for individuals with DD. Compounding the challenges is the lack of dentists in several Neighbor Island areas and access to and resistance of dentists to serve Medicaid and QUEST clients. Clearly, it is vital to the health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

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written comments in **strong support of SB 2469 SD1.**

Sincerely,



Waynette K.Y. Cabral  
Executive Administrator



Rosie Rowe  
Chair



**COUNTY OF KAUA'I  
AGENCY ON ELDERLY AFFAIRS**

**Senate Committee on Ways & Means  
Wednesday, February 24, 2010**

**Testimony of Ludvina Takahashi, County Executive on Aging  
Support of SB 2469, SD1 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund.**

The County of Kaua'i Agency on Elderly Affairs is in full support of SB 2469, SD1. One of the components included in this bill would support further development of the **Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC)**, an effort to provide information to Hawai'i's seniors, families, and persons with special needs. The other would provide continued support for Hawai'i's Healthy Aging Partnership – Empowering Elders' (HAPEE) capacity to effectively embed two evidence-based disease prevention programs which are currently being implemented, **Ke Ola Pono, the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (CDSMP)** and **EnhanceFitness**, a physical activity program for older adults.

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 participated in 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 seen the positive impact that it has made 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 and the new friendships they have made, which 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 in 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, together with its partners, have been *Working Together for a Strong, Healthy Kaua'i* and is committed to supporting 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.



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(Ms.) Ludvina Takahashi  
County Executive on Aging

NSS



## **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](mailto:info@hawaiidisabilityrights.org) Website: [www.hawaiidisabilityrights.org](http://www.hawaiidisabilityrights.org)*

### **THE SENATE THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 2010**

#### **Committee on Ways and Means Testimony in Support of S.B. 2469, SD1 Relating to The Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

**Wednesday, February 24, 2010, 10:10 A.M.  
Conference Room 211**

Chair Mercado Kim and Members of the Committee:

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.



To: Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair

Date: Feb. 24, 2010 - Conference Room 211 - 10:10 a.m.

Re: **SB 2469, SD1 RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY BUDGET AND RESERVE FUND**

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Tsutsui, 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, SD1. It's purpose is to appropriate moneys from the emergency and budget reserve fund to maintain levels of programs for education, human services, and health.

AARP urges the Legislature to use the Rainy Day fund for this intended purpose, that is, to address pressing community needs for health, safety and welfare. Shortfalls in these areas impact our community's most fragile. We note that it is not the appropriate vehicle to address the furlough funding shortfall. Section 328L-3, HRS specifically prohibits "cost items in any collective bargaining contract." Restoration of instructional days will require funds to support collective bargaining agreements.

Within SB 2469, SD1, we strongly support an appropriation to maintain the Kupuna Care program. 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 resulting in cuts to core services for clients who are homebound, frail and elderly.

This program helps people in the "gap group" – those who cannot afford to pay for services but do not qualify for Medicaid. Kupuna Care provides an important safety net that reduces the number of older adults from going into poverty due to the high cost of long-term care. Clients face few alternative care options where most would not afford the \$123,000 annually for nursing home care, and would more likely become Medicaid eligible with the state picking up the \$75,000 annual cost.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for SB 1649, SD1 and the Kupuna Care program.



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

February 24, 2010

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair, Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: 'Ohana Health Plan

Re: Senate Bill 2469, Senate Draft 1-Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Hearing: Wednesday, February 24, 2010, 10:10 a.m.  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 211

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Since February 2009, 'Ohana Health Plan has provided services under the Hawai'i QUEST Expanded Access (QExA) program. 'Ohana is managed by a local team of experienced care professionals who embrace cultural diversity, advocate preventative care and facilitate communications between members and providers. Our philosophy is to place members and their families at the center of the health care continuum.

'Ohana Health Plan is offered by WellCare Health Insurance of Arizona, Inc. WellCare provides managed care services exclusively for government-sponsored health care programs serving approximately 2.3 million Medicaid and Medicare members nationwide. 'Ohana is able to take the national experience in providing an 'Ohana care model that addresses local members' healthcare and health coordination needs.

We appreciate this opportunity to submit our comments in strong support of Senate Bill 2469, Senate Draft 1-Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund, specifically Section 21 which would appropriate a blank dollar amount to be expended by the Department of Human Services (DHS) in fiscal year 2010-2011 for Medicaid provider reimbursements.

'Ohana Health Plan (OHP) is one of the five health care plans contracted under the QUEST program through the 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. Appropriating funding to the DHS through Section 21 of this bill will likely allow 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 testify in support of Senate Bill 2469, Senate Draft 1.

FEB 23 2010



Creating solutions, changing lives

Easter Seals Hawai'i

Oahu Support Services  
 92-461 Makakilo Drive  
 Kapolei, Hawai'i 96707  
 Phone: (808) 678-3754  
 Fax: (808) 686-9538  
[www.eastersealshawaii.org](http://www.eastersealshawaii.org)

**O'AHU**

Adult Day Health Program at Central Union Church

Adult Day Health Program at Ewa Beach

Adult Day Health Program at Napoakaa

Assistive Technology Program

Family Support Services Program

Kailua Early Intervention Program

Kapolei Early Intervention Program

O'ahu Support Services

Sullivan Early Intervention Program

East Sullivan Early Intervention Program

Youth Services Program

**KAUAI**

Kauai Early Intervention Program

Kauai Adult Day Health Program

Kauai Support Services

**HAWAII**

Hilo Adult Day Health Program

Hilo Early Intervention Program

Hilo Support Services Program

**MAUI COUNTY**

Adult Day Health Program at Hale Hawaii

Support Services Program

Tanai Support Services Program

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair of the Senate Ways and Means Committee  
 The Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair of the Senate Ways and Means Committee

Twenty-Fifth Legislature  
 State Capitol  
 415 S. Beretania Street  
 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

From: Anastasia Keller-Collins, VP of Program Development  
 Easter Seals Hawaii

Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 2469 SD1 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Hearing: Wednesday, February 24, 2010 Room 210

Dear Senators:

I am submitting testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 2469 SD1** relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund.

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 SD1 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  
 VP of Program Development  
 Easter Seals Hawaii



SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair

Conference Room 211  
Feb. 24, 2010 at 10:10 a.m.

**Supporting SB 2469 SD 1.**

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 SD 1, 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 \$114 million in 2009, and this appropriation would help reduce that loss.

For the foregoing reasons the Healthcare Association supports SB 2469 SD 1.

**From:** Patrick  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of SB 2469 SD1 and SB 819 SD1  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 23, 2010 9:43:28 AM

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Democratic Party of Hawaii  
Kupuna Caucus

To: Committee on Ways and Means, Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair

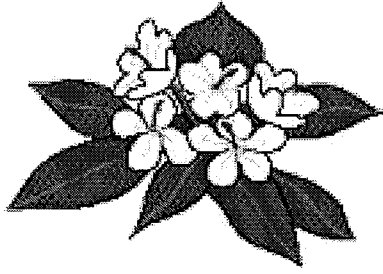
Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2010, State Capitol Room 211 at 10:10 a.m.

Re: SB 2469 SD1 Relating to Kupuna Care and SB 819 SD1 Relating to Kupuna Care

The Kupuna Caucus of the DPH strongly supports both SB 819 SD1 and SB 2449 SD1. SB 2449 SD1 uses the Emergency and Budget Reserve fund for its intended purpose. Among those purposes, Kupuna Care, which provides Home and Community Based Services for frail elderly seniors is critical. The Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund (Rainy Day Fund) should not be used as a short term fix but for critical food and shelter.

SB 819 SD1 appropriates funding for Home and Community Based services for frail elderly people who are in the "gap group" (i.e., not poor enough for Medicaid but unable to afford services).

Patrick Stanley  
Millie Saito  
Co-Chairs



**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](mailto:spin@doh.hawaii.gov)

February 24, 2010

**Special Education  
Advisory Council**

Ms. Ivalee Sinclair, *Chair*  
Mr. Steve Laracuento, *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 Rezentes  
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 Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: SB 2469 SD 1 – RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND  
BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Dear Senator Mercado Kim 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 SD 1 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 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,

Ivalee Sinclair, Chair



To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair of the Senate Ways and Means Committee  
The Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair of the Senate Ways and Means Committee

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

Date: February 23, 2010

Re: **Letter of Support, SB 2469 SD1 SD1 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

Goodwill Industries of Hawaii, Inc. (“Goodwill”) submits this letter in support of Senate Bill 2469 SD1, 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 SD1. 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 letter of support on this matter.

## Hawaii Waiver Providers Association

February 22, 2010

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair of the Senate Ways and Means Committee  
The Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair of the Senate Ways and Means Committee

From: Wanda Villareal, President  
Hawaii Waiver Providers Association

Re: **SB 2469 SD1 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

Dear Chair Mercado Kim and Vice Chair Tsutsui and Members of the Committees:

The Hawaii Waiver Providers Association (HWPAA) is a statewide association comprised of 20 Developmental Disabilities Medicaid Waiver Service Providers. HWPAA provides the leadership and the forum for collaboration to better meet the needs of people with developmental disabilities and to improve the service system. 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 letter in strong support of Senate Bill 2469 SD1.**

In order to meet the projected budget short fall for 2009, The Department of Health-Developmental Disabilities Division's (“DOH-DDD”) implemented mandated budget reductions of 15% or greater 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. Individuals with developmental disabilities, their families and human service providers were all severely impacted.

The Waiver programs are essential for the health, welfare and safety of individuals with developmental disabilities. The emergency and budget reserve funds need be used to maintain the level of programs for individuals with developmental disabilities.

We humbly ask for your support of Senate Bill 2469 SD1 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 provide a letter of support.

Sincerely,

Wanda Villareal  
President - Hawaii Waiver Providers Association

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SECOH

The Arc in Hawaii

The Arc of Hilo

The Arc of Kauai

The Arc of Kona

The Arc of Maui County

The Institute for Family Enrichment



Hawaii Family Law Clinic, dba,

# Ala Kuola

*--- a path to safety and life ---*

## TESTYIMONY

ON

### SB 2469 RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND SENATE WAY AND MEANS

February 24, 2010

10:10 a.m.

Room 211

Aloha Chair Mercado-Kim and members of the committee.

The Hawaii Family Law Clinic dba Ala Kuola is a non-profit organization that has provided services to the public since 2006. Ala Kuola's focus is to assist victims of domestic violence

abuse to obtain temporary orders (TRO's) or protection from their abusers. With the ever increasing incidences of domestic violence/abuse occurring in our community, Ala Kuola provides greater accessibility to those who seek protective court orders from their abusers. Ala Kuola's services are available each day during normal business hours. We also provide intake services to those who may be hospitalized or disabled at locations that are convenient and accessible to the victims.

Ala Kuola's assistance includes but is not limited to intake, assistance with the completion of a petition for a temporary restraining order and the process and filing of court documents. At this writing, Ala Kuola has assisted approximately 26% of those who have sought temporary restraining orders with the Family Court.

Currently, with the Judiciary's schedule of furloughs, Ala Kuola has filled the gap created by providing these services to the public.

During these difficult economic times, Ala Kuola relies on its funding sources to keep its doors open and services available to the public. However, in these difficult times, Ala Kuola's level of funding and private donations has drastically decreased.

The passage of SB2469 is critical to the continued level of service to the public by Ala Kuola

We strongly urge passage of SB 2469. Thank for this opportunity to offer testimony.

Edwin K. Flores, Director



Blueprint  
FOR Change

TESTIMONY  
ON

**SB 2469, SD 1 RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**

**February 24, 2010**

**10:10 am**

**Room 211**

Aloha Chair Mercado-Kim and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means. Blueprint for Change (BFC), a non-profit organization whose mission is to improve Hawai'i's Child Welfare System, strongly **supports SB 2469, SD 1**. BFC's is interested in this bill because funding provided through this measure can not only help BFC and other social service providers maintain our services to children and families but literally, keep us from closing down operations.

BFC serves as the master contractor for the Department of Human Services in providing financial, technical, and administrative support to five Neighborhood Place centers statewide that provide prevention and strengthening services to families at risk of child abuse and neglect. In FY 2009, BFC's budget, including funding for the NP's, was cut 12% by DHS. Thankfully, it received additional funding from the TANF Fiscal Reserve as part of a Proviso in the Legislature's Budget, and this funding helped soften the blow of the 12% cut.

This year, FY 2010, BFC's DHS budget was again cut by 12%, but unlike last year, the Proviso money that was approved in the State Legislature's approved Budget last session has not been released by the Benefits, Employment, and Support Services Division (BESSD) of DHS. The budget cut, lack of Proviso funds, and "slow payment" on invoices has placed BFC and the NP's in dire fiscal straits.

Three of the NP's, Wai'anae, Wailuku, and Puna, have already placed NP staff on a rotating furlough status in order to keep offices open five days a week. A quick financial assessment done by BFC two days ago, showed that BFC and all the NP's have only enough funding to keep our doors open for another six to eight weeks.

This fiscal crisis comes at a time when the demand for services from families has doubled. By the end of the second quarter (December 31, 2009) this year, four of the five NP's had already met or exceeded the number of new families they were required to serve in their subcontracts.

We strongly urge passage of SB 2469, SD 1. Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.

February 22, 2010

Senate Ways and Means Committee  
Donna Mercado Kim, Chair

Re: SB 2469 SD 1: 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

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

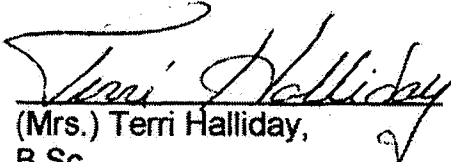
**Testimony from: Terri Halliday**  
**Kauai EnhanceFitness Program Master Trainer**  
**and Fifty Plus Lifelong Fitness Ambassador**  
**Kaua'i Healthy Aging Project Partner**

Wednesday, February 24, 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



Board of Directors

February 23, 2010

Carolyn Wong  
Chair

TO: The Honorable Sen. Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
The Honorable Sen. Shan Tsutsui, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Rick Egged  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair

FROM: Joan Naguwa, Executive Director

Susan Todani  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair

RE: **SUPPORT OF SB2469, SD1 - RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND**

Faye Chiogioji  
Secretary

Hearing Date: Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2010  
Time: 10:10 am  
Place: Conference Room 211

Linda Lee  
Treasurer

Jennifer Barrett

Gregory Boxold

Dear Chair Mercado Kim, Vice Chair Tsutsui and Members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee:

Gregory Dunn

My name is Joan Naguwa, Executive Director of Waikiki Community Center (WCC). Waikiki Community Center **strongly supports SB2469, SD1, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund.**

David Givens

Maki Kuroda

David Lewin

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, SD1 includes funding for a 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.

Teri Matsukawa

Leona Nakaahiki

Jim Nishimoto

Jessica Rich

Sheri Rolf

The Waikiki Community Center's Senior Support Services Program is 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. WCC 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. WCC 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:

Noel Trainor

Vivian Tsuji

Joan Naguwa  
Executive Director

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

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

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



31 Years of Service to the Community  
[www.waikikicomunitycenter.org](http://www.waikikicomunitycenter.org)

-2-

In 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.

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 understand the great financial challenges faced by the State of Hawaii during this time. However, the services provided by the nonprofit agencies identified in SB2469, SD1, are critical to the community's safety net. An investment in these services will keep Hawaii's families from "falling off the cliff" into more dire straits and more costly services in the future.**

**We urge your support for the passage of SB2469, SD1.** Thank you for this opportunity to submit our comments regarding this bill. If you would like further information, please feel free to contact me at 923-1802 or via email, [jnaguwa@waikikicommunitycenter.org](mailto:jnaguwa@waikikicommunitycenter.org).



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

As participants of the EnhanceFitness program, we fully support SB 2469, SD1 which would provide an appropriation in fiscal year 2010 – 2011 to continue the work that was started in Hawai'i 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.

Ravey Burson  
Mary Flemethal  
Watsurp Ozeki  
Apul Raymond  
Kay Naito  
3510441124  
Madeline I. Yamachi  
Yoshihiro Hirayama  
Jane Brady  
Marjorie Konishi  
Jane Brita  
Marian Ogata  
Betty Yamamoto  
Sally Hayashida  
Charles D. Hill

Zay Burson  
Jana Cox  
Pacita A. Jimenez  
Deane E. Horita  
Aileen Fujikura  
Claire Kachibara  
Gary Suga  
Yasuhiro Takahashi  
Aruna Navarro  
Elizabeth Melapet  
Matsuko & Dor  
Herolco Oshima  
Yukiko M. Yamane  
Gladys Fujimichi  
Ellie Lloyd  
Claudia R. Ordo

**To: Committee on Ways and Means, Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair**  
**Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2010, State Capitol Room 211 at 10:10 a.m.**  
**Re: SB 2469 SD1 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

To Chair Mercado Kim and Committee Members:

My name is Steve Tam and I am a resident of Hawaii Kai and a caregiver for both my father in Aina Haina, and father-in-law in Maunawili. I am testifying in strong support of SB 2469 SD1 relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund, especially with regard to funding for Kupuna Care.

The State is faced with a “ticking time bomb,” as in 20 years, 1 in 4 people will be over 60 years old, and faced with unfathomable long term care costs. Nursing home costs are now in excess of \$120,000 annually. Most families cannot afford such an expense, and instead rely upon a combination of utilizing unpaid family caregivers, and draining life savings to pay for in-home care. It’s ironic in that spending life savings will qualify seniors for Medicaid, which would in turn be more expensive and a larger cash drain for the State and all taxpayers.

I urge that you appropriate funds for Kupuna Care. This Home and Community Based Service allows seniors to remain in their home as long as possible, and gives caregivers respite by helping their loved ones with baths, hot meals, toileting assistance, transportation, and other household chores. These seniors are part of the unlucky “gap” group that does not have enough monies to pay for all the assistance to meet daily needs, yet have enough money and thus cannot qualify for Medicaid. This gap group is the beneficiary of Kupuna Care.

Caregivers also benefit from Kupuna Care. A staggering 1 in 4 adults in Hawaii (approximately 169,000 people), provide caregiver services worth about \$1.4 billion annually. Caregivers provide these services at no cost to the State. However, caregivers cannot do it alone, and would “burn out” without occasional help to care for parents, and allowing time to take care of themselves and their children. Cutting the Kupuna Care Program would not result in a cost savings, but instead result in a cost increase to the State, as caregiver “burn out” would mean that the State would be burdened with the entire senior long term care costs, rather than the smaller Kupuna Care costs for occasional caregiver respite and senior assistance.

As a caregiver for my father who has Alzheimer’s, and my father-in-law who had a stroke, this is of great personal interest to me. I left my full-time job in part to care for my parents and in-laws. However, I need to return to work to pay for my children’s college education. I have found that there are many families in similar situations. If all these caregivers were unable to give of their own time, the State would be faced with a severe social service catastrophe.

In summary, funding for Kupuna Care is essential to the senior population and their caregivers, and cannot be put off to a later date, as to do so, will severely lessen the quality of life of our seniors, and ultimately place extreme financial burdens on the State, when forced to deal with the issue. Thank you in advance for your help.

To: Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair

Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2010, State Capitol Room 211: 10:10 a.m.

Subject: Testimony on SB 2469 SD1 Relating to Kupuna Care

Chair Kim and Committee Members. My name is Esther Ueda and I am a resident of Pearl City, Honolulu and a part-time caregiver. I am submitting testimony in support of SBB 2469, SD1 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund.

In this current economic climate, there are so many pressing community needs, especially those related to health, safety and welfare. I believe that the proposed use of funds from the Emergency and Budget Reserve (Rainy Day) Fund which support Kupuna Care and other home and community based services for the elderly are appropriate uses of this fund.

As a volunteer for Meals on Wheels and Project Dana, I know how important these types of services are to help our seniors remain independent in their own homes for as long as possible, and enjoy a better quality of life.

➤

In summary, I support SB 2469 SD1. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

TO: Committee on Ways and Means, Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
DATE: Wednesday, February 24, 2010 State Capitol Room 211 at 10:10 a.m.  
RE: SB 2469 SD1 Related to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Chair Donna Mercado Kim and Committee Members, my name is Kathryn Okazaki and I live in Halawa Heights (Aiea). I am testifying in support of SB 2469 SD1 related to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund.

I am writing in support of SB2469 SD1.because:

- It supports home and community based services for frail seniors who don't qualify for Medicaid but cannot afford the services needed.
- Funding is being used for its intended purpose. There is a pressing community need; especially those related to health, safety and welfare needs as the number of seniors in Hawaii continue to escalate as more baby boomers become seniors and as seniors live longer.
- It supports Kupuna Care as a safety net in place to keep our families from becoming impoverished because of the cost of long term care.
- The amount in the Emergency and Budget Reserve (Rainy Day) Fund is not sufficient to resolve the Education deficit issues on a long term basis. Transferring funds to balance the budget for fiscal year 2009-2010 is only a short term solution and does not address long term solutions to remedy the need for additional funds for future fiscal years.

I urge you to support Kupuna Care whose programs supports health, safety and welfare needs of our seniors.

Thank you for allowing me to testify.

Kathryn Okazaki  
99-515 Kaholi Pl.  
Aiea, HI 96701  
February 22, 2010

**From:** [Mayumi Levesque](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SB 2469 SD1 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 23, 2010 10:07:13 AM

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Mayumi Levesque  
1125a 2nd Ave. #10  
Honolulu HI 96816  
[mootopia@gmail.com](mailto:mootopia@gmail.com)

**To:** Committee on Ways and Means, Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 24, 2010, State Capitol Room 211 at 10:10 a.m.  
**Re:** SB 2469 SD1 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

February 23, 2010

Chair Kim and Committee Members,

I appreciate the opportunity to testify. My name is Mayumi Catherine Levesque and I live in Kaimuki, Honolulu. As a graduate student in social work, I have a great interest in ensuring that human services organizations, health agencies, and educational institutions all have access to funding such that they can continue to provide needed services for their clients. Access is particularly critical right now as the declining economy is affecting a greater amount of Kama'aina in need, and most agencies, organizations and institutions are not being able to meet this need due to limited funding which isn't on par with the growing demand for services.

The Rainy Day Fund was created exactly for this type of situation: it is an emergency reserve fund. Not only would funding these agencies address the needs of people right now during these hard economic times; it is also a sustainable investment to ensure that people in need of health, educational, or social services in the future (such as our growing Kupuna and special needs children) are catered to without an additional expense as would be the case if they were to rely on institutionalized care due to the lack of adequate, locally-based services.

I strongly urge your support of SB 2469 SD1.

Sincerely,

Mayumi Catherine Levesque  
Honolulu, HI

**From:** [Janice Margaret Deif](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SB 2469 SD1 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 23, 2010 10:11:39 AM

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February 23, 2010

To: Committee on Ways and Means, Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair

Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2010, State Capitol Room 211 at 10:10 a.m.

Re: SB 2469 SD1 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Chair Donna Mercado Kim and Committee Members, thank you for allowing me to testify. My name is Janice Deif and I live in Waikiki, Honolulu. I am testifying in support of SB 2469 SD 1 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund (Rainy Day Fund).

I feel compelled to support SB 2469 because it uses the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund for its intended purpose.

Among those purposes, Kupuna Care, which provides Home and Community Based Services for frail elderly seniors is critical to our society.

The Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund (Rainy Day Fund) should not be used as a short term fix for the school furlough issue. Not only is this not its intended purpose, using it this way would deplete the fund and still would not solve the school furlough question. There are many pressing human service needs to which this money should be directed.

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Respectfully yours,

Janice M. Deif

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**From:** [Shirlee M. Shumway](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [Jackie McCarter Boland](#); [Bottorff, Bruce](#); [Barbara Stanton](#); [Eileen Mena](#)  
**Subject:** SB2469  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 23, 2010 5:39:39 AM

---

RE: strongly supporting SB 2469 SD

Aloha Committee Members,  
It is crucial for this bill to pass to help the elderly and frail of Hawaii. If  
We are not able to do this, we have truly lost our way. The Country is  
in crisis  
Mode and there are many things to consider but you cannot ignore the  
Kapunas.  
Please pass Senate Bill 2469.  
Mahalo Nui,  
Shirlee M. Shumway  
[shirl72025@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:shirl72025@hawaii.rr.com)  
Holualoa, Hi. 96725



To: Committee On Ways and Means  
The Honorable Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
The Honorable Shan S. Tsutui, Vice-Chair

From: Rose Nakamura, Administrator, Project Dana

Subject: SB 2469, SD 1 Relating To The Emergency And Budget Reserve Fund

As administrator of Project Dana I am in full support of SB 2469 SD1, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund.

This special fund appropriates needed moneys to maintain the level of progress determined to be essential to public health, welfare, safety and education.

Please support SD 2469 SD1 with strong original intentions as these programs need to be continued to support our community in a wide range of children and Kupuna programs.

Thank very much.



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [Tlenzer@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:Tlenzer@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2469 on 2/24/2010 10:10:00 AM  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 23, 2010 10:24:49 AM

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Testimony for WAM 2/24/2010 10:10:00 AM SB2469

Conference room: 211  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Anthony Lenzer  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone: 261-2095  
E-mail: [Tlenzer@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:Tlenzer@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 2/23/2010

**Comments:**

My name is Anthony Lenzer. I am a member of several organizations which advocate on behalf of older adults and persons with disabilities, all of which support this bill. However, I am testifying as an individual, who believes that the time has come to use the so-called rainy day funds to support the health and human services programs which this fund was designed to protect.

No one is more aware of the State's fiscal crisis than members of the Senate Ways & Means Committee. Moreover, I am sure that your Committee has also heard abundant testimony about the unmet needs of frail elders and other at-risk members of our community. Thus, I will refrain from adding more statistics, as you already have the facts about community needs, and the dire future consequences of not meeting such needs.

The Rainy Days are upon us. Please support SB 2469, and use these funds for the purposes for which they were intended.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my support for this measure.

**From:** [Eleanore Crowe](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 23, 2010 10:55:34 AM

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----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Eleanore Crowe** <[ecmaui@gmail.com](mailto:ecmaui@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Tue, Feb 23, 2010 at 8:51 AM  
**Subject:** Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund  
**To:** [WAMTestimony@capital.hawaii.gov](mailto:WAMTestimony@capital.hawaii.gov)

Chair Kim,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify. My name is Jim Crowe. I am submitting testimony in support of SB 2469, SD1 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund for its intended purposes; one important use is to support Home and Community Based Services for our Kupuna.

This fund, although small, is needed to protect critical health and human service programs.

I ask you to consider our kupuna as you work through this bill and to avoid use of these funds as a partial fix for the school problem. Please support us "older citizens".

Mahalo for your support.  
Jim Crowe  
Kula, Maui

## **kim5 - Deborah**

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**From:** Liz Graham [lizgraham@hawaii.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2010 3:54 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** SB 2469 SD1 Kupuna Care

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

To: Committee on Ways and Means  
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chairperson

The Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund or as it is known "Rainy Day Fund" was created to pay for health and human services only. I urge you to support SB 2469 because it uses the funds for their intended purposes. Kapuna care, is one of those services, Care provided by Community and Home based services for the elderly who do not qualify for Medicaid and can't afford the care necessary for activities of daily living. Please support this SB 2469 the intended use of the Rainy Day Fund.

The Emergency and Budget Reserve funds should not be used for short term fixes for school furloughs. Using the funds for short term fixes would rapidly deplete this fund and won't solve the furlough problem.

Thank you.

Elizabeth L Graham  
Kuliouou

**kim5 - Deborah**

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**From:** Bob Graham [bgraham@hawaii.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2010 4:04 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** SB 2469 SD1 Relating to Kupuna Care

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

**To:** Committee on Ways and Means, Senator Donna Mercado Kim,  
Chair

**Date:** Wednesday, February 24, 2010, State Capitol Room 211 at 10:10 a.m.

**Re:** SB 2469 SD1 Relating to Kupuna Care

Chair Kim and Committee Members, thank you for allowing me to testify. My name is Bob Graham and was a family caregiver who lives in Kuliouou. I'm submitting testimony in support of SB 2469 SD1 Relating to Kupuna Care. Shortly after I retired my late wife was dianosed with lung cancer. The illnes was terminal and her major desire was to live out the rest of her days at home. The cost of in home medical care was prohibative. Only through volunter respit help was I able to meet her last desires.

I urge you to vote yes for SB 2469

- it uses the Emergency and Budget Reserve fund for its intended purpose.
- Among those purposes, Kupuna Care, which provides Home and Community Based Services for frail elderly seniors is critical.
- The Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund (Rainy Day Fund) should not be used as a short term fix for the school furlough issue. Not only is this not its intended purpose, using it this way would deplete the fund and it wouldn't solve the school furlough problem. There are many pressing human service needs to which this money should be directed.

Thank you so much for your consideration and again I urge you to vote yes on SB 2469 SD1 Relating to Kupuna Care.

Aloha - Bob Graham

**kim5 - Deborah**

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**From:** bob [rzahl@maui.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2010 4:06 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** SB 2469 SD 1

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

**Chair Mercado Kim and Committee Members. Thank you for allowing me to testify regarding this bill. My name is Robert Zahl and I am a resident of Maui.**

**I Support SB 2469 because of the need for funding for services for the elderly, and I feel that this is, indeed a legitimate use for a Rainy Day Fund.**

**Please support SB 2469**

**Robert Zahl  
Wailuku**

**From:** [Marv Paularena](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB 2469, SD1 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund  
**Date:** Monday, February 22, 2010 7:47:45 PM

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**To: Committee on Ways and Means, Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair**

**Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2010, State Capitol Room 211 at 10:10 a.m.**

**Re: SB 2469, SD1 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

Chair Kim and Committee Members,

Thank you for allowing me the privilege to testify. My name is Michele Paularena and I am a housewife with a 75 year-old husband in a wheel chair. We live in Hale Mahaolu senior housing in Kahului, Maui. I am submitting testimony in support of SB 2469, SD1 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I urge you to support this bill because it would be a use of the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund for its intended purposes, one of which is to support Home and Community Based Services for our Kupuna. We are all aware that we are facing increasing numbers of senior citizens, many of whom suffer from age related ailments. Many of these kupuna are unable to bear the financial burden alone. We owe these, the people who willingly worked long, hard hours to make Hawai'i such a wonderful place to live, the ability to live out their years in surroundings that are reasonable.

This fund, although small, is desperately needed to protect critical health and human service programs for Hawaii's most vulnerable citizens. That includes Kupuna Care, which provides home and community based services for our home bound, frail elder citizens.

I ask you to consider those kupuna as you study this bill and also to avoid, at all costs, use of these funds as a band-aid for the school furlough problem. There just isn't enough money in the fund to solve that issue and, that is not the intended purpose. Education is important but robbing our kupuna to patch a broken system will only delay doing the job right. Please support us "older citizens" who wish to live out our lives in this wonderful land of Aloha.

Mahalo for your consideration,

**From:** Deana Shelby  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony supporting SB 2469 SD1 relating to Kupuna Care  
**Date:** Monday, February 22, 2010 5:57:30 PM

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Chair Kim and Committee Members, thank you for allowing me to testify.

My name is Deana Shelby and I live in Anahola, Kauai. I'm submitting testimony in support of using SB 2469, The Emergency and Budget Reserve (Rainy Day) Funds for their intended purpose and specifically for Kupuna Care, Home and Community Based Services for frail elderly seniors.

I fear using the funds to temporarily fix the furlough program will exhaust this fund and still not solve that problem.

Please use Emergency and Budget reserve funds for their intended purpose.

Thank you so much for your time, Deana R. Shelby

**From:** David Klemer  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony supporting Kupuna Care as noted in SB 2469 SD1  
**Date:** Monday, February 22, 2010 6:02:50 PM

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Chair Kim and Committee Members, thank you for allowing me to testify.

My name is David Klemer and I live in Anahola, Kauai.

I'm submitting testimony in support of using The Emergency and Budget Reserve (Rainy Day) Funds (SB 2469) as intended. In particular using the funds for Kupuna Care, Home and Community Based Services for frail elderly seniors.

I'm sorry our economy doesn't allow an easy fix for the furlough program, but I fear using these funds to temporarily fix that program will rapidly exhaust this fund and still not solve that problem.

Please use Emergency and Budget reserve funds for their intended purpose.

Thank you so much for your time, David T. Klemer



TO: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair  
Committee on Ways and Means

DATE: Wednesday, February 24, 2010 (10:10 a.m., Room 211)

RE: Support of SB 2469, SD 1,  
Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I am 75 years old and use the TRANSPORTATION service of Catholic Charities Hawaii, which is partially funded through the State Kupuna Care Program.

Please help Hawaii's growing population of Kupuna by providing **ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR KUPUNA CARE SERVICES, SUCH AS:**

- Transportation
- Housekeeping
- Home-delivered meals
- Case Management
- Adult day care
- Attendant care
- Bathing services
- Respite services

I need TRANSPORTATION because: *It is absolutely VITAL!*  
*My gro. list includes very heavy items: detergent & bleach, milk cartons, laundry, couldn't possibly do it. food & supplies. Have also put my own hand out.*  
**IF I did NOT HAVE TRANSPORTATION:**  
*Cab fares are way too high. I'd never finish shopping.*

Please make additional Kupuna Care funding a priority so that seniors like me can remain independent in the community. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Name: Ruth Linares

Address: 610 Cooke #409  
Hon., HI. 96813

TO: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair  
Committee on Ways and Means

DATE: Wednesday, February 24, 2010 (10:10 a.m., Room 211)

RE: Support of SB 2469, SD 1,  
Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I am 79 years old and use the **TRANSPORTATION** service of Catholic Charities Hawaii, which is partially funded through the State Kupuna Care Program.

**Please help Hawaii's growing population of Kupuna by providing ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR KUPUNA CARE SERVICES, SUCH AS:**

- Transportation
- Housekeeping
- Home-delivered meals
- Case Management
- Adult day care
- Attendant care
- Bathing services
- Respite services

**I need TRANSPORTATION because:**

*I have to use a walker and it is very hard for me to get around.*

**If I did NOT HAVE TRANSPORTATION:**

*I would have to take a taxi and I cannot afford a taxi*

**Please make additional Kupuna Care funding a priority so that seniors like me can remain independent in the community. Thank you.**

Sincerely,

Name: Phyllis Langley

Address: 545 Queen St. #516

Honolulu HI 96813

TO: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair  
Committee on Ways and Means

DATE: Wednesday, February 24, 2010 (10:10 a.m., Room 211)

RE: Support of SB 2469, SD 1,  
Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I am 75 years old and use the **TRANSPORTATION** service of Catholic Charities Hawaii, which is partially funded through the State Kupuna Care Program. *This service is a Godsend to people like me.*

**Please help Hawaii's growing population of Kupuna by providing ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR KUPUNA CARE SERVICES, SUCH AS:**

- ✓ • **Transportation**
- Housekeeping
- Home-delivered meals
- Case Management
- Adult day care
- Attendant care
- Bathing services
- ✓ • Respite services

**I need TRANSPORTATION because:**

*I have no car & cannot afford taxis.  
It hurts my back, etc. to carry groceries.  
This is a wonderful service & a lifeline to me.*

**If I did NOT HAVE TRANSPORTATION:**

*I would have to make several trips via bus and it hurts my back & feet to do so.*

**Please make additional Kupuna Care funding a priority so that seniors like me can remain independent in the community. Thank you.**

Sincerely,

Name: Martha Wright

Address: 610 Cooke St. #410

Honolulu, HI 96813