

DATE: February 5, 2009

LATE TESTIMONY

TO: The Honorable Will Espero, Chair
Honorable Robert Bunda, Vice Chair
And Members of the Committee

RE: SB 478 – RELATING TO DISASTER RELIEF

I would like to express my strong Support for SB 478, which has been referred to the Public Safety and Military Affairs Committee.

After reviewing the Bill that is before you today I would like to just point out some of the language in the bill that will hold our Governor accountable for her actions which I believe is a good thing.

Having a disaster relief agency in the executive branch will help the process in formulating and carrying out programs for disaster relief.

Having the Governor work and communicate with the legislators before taking action on any measures of any kinds of disaster relief which may lead to her using emergency proclamation will help to determine if the disaster is called for an emergency proclamation.

As a resident of Wai`anae I have seen what an emergency proclamation can do and in my case it is more of a disaster now, then when the Governor considered the homeless to be a disaster situation on the Wai`anae Coast, she should have targeted the whole islands in Hawai`i and put their own homeless and transitional shelters in their community.

Thank you for your time and for allowing me to submit my testimony.

Ms. Sharon Taylor
Ma`ili, Hawai`i 96792

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RE: SB 478 – RELATING TO DISASTER RELIEF

I would like to express my strong Support for SB 478, which has been referred to the Public Safety and Military Affairs Committee.

I ask that you please pass this bill so that in an event of a real disaster in the State of Hawaii the Governor will be held accountable for her findings and recommendations on whether to extend any disaster relief provided under this chapter, and any enabling proposed legislation or appropriations to authorize the continuance of any disaster relief provided.

In 2006, Governor Lingle misused her "emergency powers" by providing an "emergency proclamation" targeted for the island of Kaua`i and the Wai`anae Coast to address the homeless situation, I do not consider this to be a "disaster relief" situation, anything caused by Mother Nature such as earthquakes, fire, floods, tidal waves eruption of our volcano on the island of Hawai`i is considered disasters, a danger to the community or an act of war.

Please pass this bill so that we may keep our Government accountable.

Thank you for time and for allowing me to submit my testimony on SB 478.

Johnny-Jo Thurston

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RE: SB 478 – RELATING TO DISASTER RELIEF

I would like to express my strong Support for SB 478, which has been referred to the Public Safety and Military Affairs Committee.

I am a resident of Waianae and I am concern about how the Governor determines what is considered "disaster relief."

I was appalled when I read in the Honolulu Advertiser that she used her emergency powers to address the homeless on the Waianae Coast, but little does she know that most of them do not come from the Waianae Coast but from some other part of the island and out side of our island of O`ahu.

The uses of emergency powers should be used in cases of real disasters such as the big earthquake that shook all the islands of Hawai`i and the big storm that happen in December 2008, FEMA is still assisting residents on the Waianae Coast, why wasn't this considered a disaster.

I ask you to please pass this bill and hold our Governor and her Administration accountable for their actions.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony on SB 478.

Anuhea Murray
Nanakuli, HI 96792

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Honorable Robert Bunda, Vice Chair
And members of the Committee

LATE TESTIMONY

RE: SB 478 – RELATING TO DISASTER RELIEF

I would like to express my strong Support for SB 478, which has been referred to the Public Safety and Military Affairs Committee.

I believe that the Governor along with her Administration should be kept in check when using her so called emergency powers. There should be guidelines as well as procedures she must comply with so that in the event of an emergency everyone is aware of the "disaster."

In the past two years I have witness the abuse of her emergency powers by targeting only the Waianae Coast with homeless shelters and transitional shelters just to provide for the homeless who comes from all around the island of O`ahu, now our coast is more infested with homeless.

This should have been clear across the board with homeless shelters as well as transitional shelters in every district on the island of O`ahu, so that those districts can take care of their own homeless situations.

Please pass SB 478, and I thank you for hearing this bill.

Josiah L. Hoohuli Sr.
89-639 Nanakuli Avenue
Waianae, HI 96792

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LATE TESTIMONY

RE: SB 478 -- RELATING TO DISASTER RELIEF

I would like to express my strong Support for SB 478, which has been referred to the Public Safety and Military Affairs Committee.

I am resident of Waianae and I was appalled when I heard that the reason the Waianae Coast has the most homeless shelters and transitional shelters are because Governor Linda Lingle used her "emergency powers."

First of all, I do not believe homeless situation is considered to be a "emergency disaster", this problem is all over the islands through out the state, yet she did not designate any other district she targeted only the Leeward Coast.

This is what I call misuse of "emergency power", she should have put these shelters all over the islands so that each district can take care of their own instead of having them transition to where the shelters are.

Thank you for letting me submit my testimony on SB 478.

Rachel L. Kailianu
Waianae, HI 96792