

**SB 800**

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR

**LATE**



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March 3, 2009

MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Lillian B. Koller, Director

SUBJECT: S.B. 800, S.D. 1 – MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE STATE  
COMMISSION ON FATHERHOOD  
Hearing: Tuesday, March 3, 2009, 9:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 211, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purpose of this bill is to appropriate State general funds for the State Commission on Fatherhood.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) appreciates the intent of this bill and respectfully requests that its passage does not replace nor adversely impact the priorities in the Executive Biennium Budget. The Department recognizes the important role that fathers play in the family and in the lives of their children.

The Hawaii Commission on Fatherhood was established by Act 156, SLH 2003, and directs the Commission to serve in an advisory capacity to State agencies to promote healthy family relationships between parents and children. The Commission is authorized to make recommendations on programs, services, and contracts relating to children and families.

Across the nation, there is a renewed understanding of the unique importance of fathers in the lives of their children, families, and communities. It is widely recognized that children are

more likely to thrive with support, guidance, and nurturing from both parents. The presence of fathers has a positive impact on the lives of their children, as reflected in better school performance, fewer high-risk behaviors, higher self-esteem, and less substance abuse. Healthy families mean less impact on our child protective services and at-risk youth and youth offender programs and the Judiciary. However, many young men today are themselves fatherless, lack appropriate role models, and are in need of information and education regarding the appropriate roles and responsibilities of fathers.

The Commission on Fatherhood plays an important role in promoting healthy family relationships between parents and children and promotes involved, nurturing, and responsible fatherhood.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this bill.

**LATE****TESTIMONY OF THE STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE, 2009**

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**ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:**

S.B. NO. 800, S.D. 1, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE ESTATE COMMISSION ON FATHERHOOD.

**BEFORE THE:**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

DATE: Tuesday, March 3, 2009 TIME: 9:30 AM

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 211

TESTIFIER(S): WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

(For further information, contact Susan R. Kern, Deputy Attorney General, at 587-3050.)

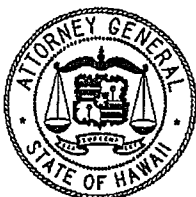
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Chair Kim and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General provides one comment regarding a legal problem with this bill.

This bill would appropriate funds to support the operations of the State Commission on Fatherhood. The bill, in its current form, S.D. 1, at section 2, also amends section 577E-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to impose term limits on the State Commission on Fatherhood. As amended by S.D. 1, the bill appears to be in violation of article III, section 14, of the Hawaii Constitution, which provides that "[e]ach law shall embrace but one subject, which shall be expressed in its title." The subject of this bill, as expressed in its title, is limited to making an appropriation for the State Commission on Fatherhood.

If the bill is amended to delete section 2, the section imposing term limits on the State Commission on Fatherhood, this constitutional concern would be eliminated.



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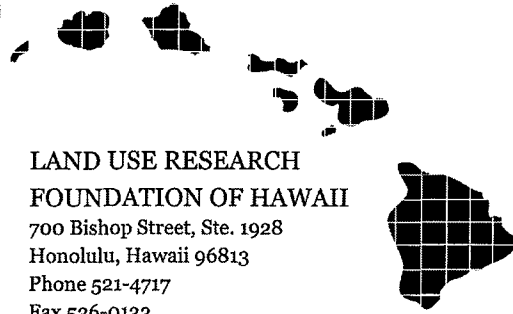
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**LATE**



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Via Capitol Website

**March 3, 2009**

**Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Hearing Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2009, at 9:30 a.m. in CR 211**

**Testimony in Support of SB 1611, SD1 Relating to Highways  
(Increases state liquid fuel tax to fund 6-year modernization program.)**

Honorable Chair Donna Mercado Kim, Vice-Chair Shan S. Tsutsui  
And Members of the Committee on Ways and Means:

My name is Dave Arakawa, and I am the Executive Director of the Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii (LURF), a private, non-profit research and trade association whose members include major Hawaii landowners, developers and a utility company. One of LURF's missions is to advocate for reasonable, rational and equitable land use planning, legislation and regulations that encourage well-planned economic growth and development, while safeguarding Hawaii's significant natural and cultural resources and public health and safety.

LURF is writing **in support of SB 1611, SD1**, which will increase the state liquid fuel tax; state vehicle registration fee; state vehicle weight fee. It also establishes the land transportation modernization special fund and provides funding for a six-year comprehensive modernization program. Effective 7/1/2012.

**LURF's Position.** LURF supports SB 1611, SD1 because it will help alleviate traffic congestion on all islands, and it is the vehicle necessary to kick start Hawaii's economy. Although the increase in taxes may not be favored by island residents, the long term savings and improvements outweigh the benefits to the state and our island residents.

As noted in a January 23, 2009 article in Honolulu Star Bulletin by Alexandre Da Silva, the bill "calls for intersections, guardrails and shoulder improvements, rockfall prevention, bridge rehabilitation, road widenings and addition of contra-flow lanes, bicycle and pedestrian projects — also would help create jobs, said House Transportation Chairman Joe Souki. Other services include roadside alerts to motorists about traffic conditions, safe-driving education programs and a Freeway Service Patrol that would respond to accidents." In the article, Representative Souki went on to say, "We expect this to be quite a stimulus for the recovery of the state." The massive repairs to Hawaii highways would include 183 projects across the state, which are noted in SB 1611.

The State Department of Transportation recognizes that due to the extreme imbalance between programmatic needs and available resources, the department of transportation is committed to undertaking a comprehensive transformation, re-evaluating its strategic policies, priorities, and organizational structure to meet the challenges of the twenty-first century. A major initiative of this comprehensive transformation is the development of clear performance criteria to properly drive investment decisions to ensure that the greatest public benefit will be achieved through the responsible management and expenditure of public funds.

In response, the State department of transportation has developed the \$4,000,000,000 comprehensive six-year work plan and financial plan to implement critical programs and projects. As a part of this effort, the department of transportation seeks a one-time, extraordinary infusion of \$2,000,000,000 in capital to aid in rectifying critical deficiencies by pursuing those programs and projects that have the greatest potential to improve the performance categories relating to safety, congestion, system preservation, and other programs and initiatives.

Overall, SB 1611, SD1 will not only help create jobs, but will alleviate traffic and help reduce congestion from West Oahu, make improvements to major roadways on the neighbor islands, initiate shoreline protection, improve bikeway and pedestrian walkways and address some drainage issues on all islands.

Based on the above, we respectfully request your **favorable consideration of SB 1611, SD1.**

Thank you for the opportunity to express our **support** for SB 1611, SD1.