



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

September 25, 2009

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

Ms. Betty J. Bell
2895 Milo Hae Loop
Koloa, HI 96756

Dear Ms. Bell:

Thank you for your recent letter in which you and a number of blind and visually impaired individuals expressed gratitude for services received from rehabilitation teacher Glenn Nakagawara, as well as your concern that his position might be eliminated.

Please understand that my Administration remains committed to addressing the needs of persons with disabilities. That is why we prefer to reduce the State's \$1 billion budget deficit by furloughing employees rather than resorting to layoffs.

Savings achieved through furloughs would allow the State to retain vital programs, avoid termination of dedicated public servants, and reduce the need to hire and train new staff when the economy recovers. It is unfortunate that public sector union leaders opposed our furlough plan in Court.

It is evident from your letter that, due to the work of Mr. Nakagawara, you and others on Kauai with visual impairments now have skills that help you to live more independently in your homes and communities.

It is my hope that contract talks with the labor unions will result in agreements that are fair to all citizens of our State, and that important services such as those provided by Mr. Nakagawara and others at the Vocational Rehabilitation and Services for the Blind Division can continue.

Thank you again for taking the time to write to me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda Lingle".
LINDA LINGLE



DATE: October 12, 2009
National Federation
of the Blind

Virgil Stinnett, President
Honolulu Chapter of the NFB of Hawai'i
2943 Kalakaua Ave. #304
Honolulu, HI 96815
(808) 722-4242
one.fisherman@hawaiiantel.net

We have 3 lists of positions in order of what we believe to be priority.

I. Priority; II. Essential; III. Nonessential.

Note * (V) indicates vacant (R) indicates RIF/lay off.

Priority:

**(V) Rehabilitation Teacher – Communication Skills (Braille)
#51815**

**(V) Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist
#30550**

**(V) Employment Services Specialist
#04534**

**(R) Rehabilitation Teacher for the Blind –
Kauai #112859**

**(R) Rehabilitation Teacher for the Blind –
Maui #112858**

**(R) Account
Clerk
#02445**

**® Social Service
Aide #057416**

**® Social Service Aide
#057416**

II. Essential:

(V) Counseling Section Supervisor
#01758

**(V/R) Orientation and Mobility
Specialist #00208**
**(R) Office
Assistant
#15194**

III. nonessential

**(R) Social Service
Assistant #089229**

**(R) Business Manager
#078217**