

Dear Chair Cabanilla and members of the committee,

I am in support of HB1586 because believe it will help people who are on the waiting list for transitional shelters, affordable housing, and even the homeless. This bill will not only help the persons waiting for transitional homes, but it will also help the home owners themselves. I am a home owner who has already opened up my home to another family in need. This particular bill will help me personally. I have allowed my sister and her family to live in my home for the past 3 years. Although it's tight, I am happy to know that my family has a place to stay. It benefits me because my sister helps me pay for the bills and doesn't allow all the responsibility to fall on me.

I am support of House Bill 1586. I believe the tax credit will help many families and home owners. Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
John Cross

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 15, 2011 2:28 PM  
**To:** HSGtestimony  
**Cc:** jme\_LEE@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB1586 on 2/16/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for HSG 2/16/2011 8:30:00 AM HB1586

Conference room: 325  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Jamie Lee  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [jme\\_LEE@yahoo.com](mailto:jme_LEE@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 2/15/2011

Comments:

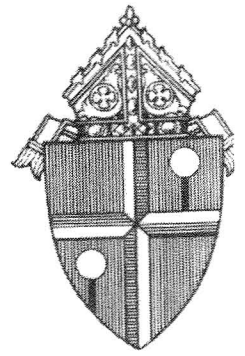
I apologize to the committee on Housing for not being able to attend this hearing but I am in support of House Bill 1586. This bill will help many of the families in Hawaii that are in need of a place to live and will also benefit the home owners themselves.

Mahalo for allowing me to testify,  
Jamie-Lee D.

# ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE STATE OF HAWAII

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St. Stephen's Diocesan Center of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Honolulu  
6301 Pali Highway, Kaneohe, HI 96744 • Phone: (808) 203-6718



Testimony of Kent Anderson  
February 16, 2011, 8:30am; Conference Room 325  
Support for HB 1586

Good Morning Committee Chair Rida T.R. Cabanilla, Vice-Chair Pono Chong, and members of the Committee on Housing. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of **HB 1586**.

My name is Kent Anderson, and I am here on behalf of the Diocese of Honolulu. I serve as the newly appointed Housing Development Director for the Office of Affordable Housing for the Diocese. We are your partners and among your strongest supporters in providing supportive services and permanent housing opportunities for those at the lowest levels of income who are either homeless or dangerously close to becoming homeless. We have and will continue to be your partners because we know that the government cannot and should not be the sole caretaker for our whole community.

Homelessness will impact over 15,000 of our neighbors this year statewide. Many of the victims will be keiki and kupuna. Many working families are unable to make ends meet since we experience the highest housing costs in the country. According to HUD statistics, fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment is \$1,610. In order to afford this level of rent without paying more than 30% of income on housing, an employee must earn \$30.96/hr. Unfortunately, the average renter only earns \$12.89/hr in Hawaii. At this wage, two full time jobs are not sufficient to sustainably support a family. For minimum wage earners, the outlook is heartbreaking. A minimum wage earner would need to work 171 hours/week to support a family of four without any time off for sickness or vacation. An individual who could achieve this workload would be miraculous, especially since there are only 168 hours in a week.

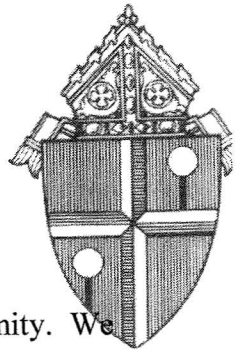
We understand that times are tough right now; therefore, we must step forward to assist those most in need. Affordable housing is a basic need for our entire Ohana. It helps provide the basis of a healthy workforce, healthy children, healthy kupuna, and healthy economy. We ask that you prioritize your legislation to ensure that homeless services and affordable housing are priorities during this legislative session. We appreciate and highly applaud your past efforts and look forward to partnering with you to provide a home for each member of our Ohana.

HB1586 will quickly and efficiently create more affordable housing, helping low and middle-income families in this tight housing market. Ohana dwellings have been identified in local and national publications as one of the most cost-effective ways to address community housing needs. For example, a new unit can usually be created at less than 10% of the cost of new construction. Homeowners, especially kupuna, will benefit from extra income to meet their financial obligations. Perhaps most importantly, it creates affordable housing in a variety of neighborhoods, thereby helping low and middle-income families to healthily access jobs, school, and other needs. The *Gautreaux* studies strongly showed poor residents now residing in middle-class neighborhoods were more likely to be employed and their children were four times less likely to drop out of school and more likely to attend college. About 75% of these children were employed, compared to 41% in the poor, segregated control group. The *Gautreaux* studies illustrated the benefits of scattered sites that ensure that the poor are not

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isolated in poor neighborhoods. Please support HB1586 and help us create a stronger community. We urge your support for this essential bill.

Thank you again for this opportunity to testify. Please contact me at [kentanderson@rcchawaii.org](mailto:kentanderson@rcchawaii.org) or by phone at 808-203-6718 if we may be of assistance.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR

BRIAN SCHATZ  
LT. GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION**  
P.O. BOX 259  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809  
PHONE NO: (808) 587-1530  
FAX NO: (808) 587-1584

**FREDERICK D. PABLO**  
INTERIM DIRECTOR OF TAXATION

**RANDOLF L. M. BALDEMOR**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

## HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

### TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION REGARDING HB 1586 RELATING TO OHANA HOUSING

**\*\*\*WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY\*\*\***

**TESTIFIER:**                   **FREDERICK D. PABLO, DIRECTOR OF TAXATION  
(OR DESIGNEE)**

**COMMITTEE:**               **HSG**

**DATE:**                       **FEBRUARY 16, 2011**

**TIME:**                       **8:30AM**

**POSITION:**               **COMMENTS**

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This measure creates a refundable tax credit for taxpayers who construct residential additions or expansions solely for the purpose of housing family members who at the time of construction reside in an emergency or transitional shelter.

The Department offers only the following technical comment. The Department recommends defining the term "family." It is unclear how distant of a relative a person could house in an addition or expansion and qualify for the credit.