

To Whom It May Concern:

Aloha.

Kahuna Valley is a 501(c)3 non-profit and has been licensed in the State of Hawaii since 2002. We work with youth and families and affects THOUSANDS in the course of a year through our various programs such as MentorOhana – our teen mentoring program, the Family Summit – annual family values event where we feed over 1,000 people a free meal and provide information on health and family social services, and our various educational programs we are responsible for. Kahuna Valley receives less than 10% of our budget through grants... we have remained self-sustaining because we run a very tight ship.

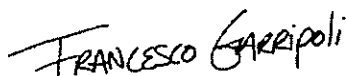
We are saddened by even the mention of HB 799, proposed HD 1 calling for a 4% tax on certain revenues generated by non-profits.

I can tell you, even a 4% reduction in our budget would be so detrimental that it could mean we would have to reduce further our current ALREADY REDUCED offerings due to the economy. So many non-profits run so close to the margin that the slightest tip could spell disaster.

I do hope that you truly reconsider this legislation that takes from those who give back the most. By the way, we already are required to pay tax on non-mission-statement activities that generate income...

Mahalo for listening and for doing the right thing in your heart for the children and needy families of Hawai'i.

Peace...



Francesco Garri Garripoli  
President