

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



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LATE
Testimony

January 27, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable John M. Mizuno, Chair
House Committee on Human Services

FROM: Patricia McManaman, Interim Director

SUBJECT: **H.B. 94 - RELATING TO PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

Hearing: Thursday, January 27, 2011; 9:00 a.m.
Conference Room 329, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purpose of H.B. 94 is to conduct a financial and management audit of the Department of Human Services relating to the public assistance programs that the Department administers under section 346-14.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the purpose of this bill and its intent to ensure that our public assistance programs are managed in a manner that conforms with the purpose of the programs.

The State Auditor uses an independent CPA to conduct an annual financial and compliance audit of the DHS that we refer to as the Single Audit. This annual audit is required by the Single Audit Act of 1984 and the Single Audit Amendments of 1996. The auditors are required to audit the Department's compliance with the federal program mandates for TANF, Medicaid, SNAP, and other programs.

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A copy of the FY 2009 Single Audit report is available on the DHS website at www.hawaii.gov/dhs/main/reports/fiscal. The FY 2010 Single Audit report will be available at the end of March 2011.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this bill.

From: richard farley
Date: 1/26/2011 4:15:39 PM
To: www.vanburen@Capitol.Hawaii.gov
Subject: welfare/food stamps audit

LATE

Being a concerned tax payer I have major concerns about the Food Stamps /Welfare system. This is a very broken system. I do not approve of my tax dollars being so misused. I work as a cashier in one of Hawaii's major supermarkets, and I see what is given to all of the food stamps recipients and you enable these people to stay on food stamps. To give one lady 5,000 dollars a month to feed her kids is just WRONG. I don't eat that well and I work full time. Plus what they are allowed to buy is wrong steak, lobster, poke, scallops,ect. Again I don't eat that well. There needs to be an AUDIT of your welfare/food stamp program. I hear acquaintance and friends say they should get divorced and go apply for food stamps as they would get more money this sounds so wrong, but people are doing this. Again audit your system. My interpretation of and audit is to go through all of food stamps recipients as you have people on this that are of able body to work but instead you choose to just give them food stamps. So why can I just do this and live on my own tax dollar. We have foreigners that put nothing into your system but yet they get food stamps. I as and American citizen I cannot go to any other country and live off of there system so why do we allow this. Plus we need to stop over compensating the people on food stamps. Im sure that I've made my point but I could go on and on. This audit should be done on a constant basis and continue for year to year. Teach people to make it on their own not to live off of the State!!!! (You don't catch fish for the fisherman you teach them how to fish. Gail Farley