



SB1270

**LATE**

February 10, 2011

Good morning:

Chair Roslyn Baker, Vice Chair Brian Taniguchi

I am Lehua Ka'auwai-Krueger, General Manager of Paxen Huli Ke Alo and the director of Hawaii's *About Face! Family of Programs*.

Our family of programs educates nearly 2000 youth and adults in key areas of employability skills, work maturity skills and job placement which in turn leads to youth staying in school, getting a job and or higher education.

Our evidence based programs are so successful that it has attracted the interest of the federal government agencies. These agencies have replicated this model in several states and gave the state of Hawaii an opportunity to shine.

We touch remote communities such as Ka'u, Honoka'a, Molokai and work closely with Ehunuikaimalino, the Hawaiian Immersion School in the Kona area who do not or may not have services available to them.

This past summer, during the months of July -- September 2010 we were able to employ close to 4000 participants in the SYEP program doing exactly what it was set out to do....Stimulate our communities and economy.

The loss of TANF programs will have a ripple effect in the sense that we collaborate with other agencies, such as Partners in Development, Tutu and Me, Boys and Girls Club, Island Star and many others.

We ask that you please allow us an opportunity to continue the good work that we have done for the past 7 years and save the jobs of 60 employees.

Fisherman Story; If you give a man a fish he will eat for a day, but if you give a man a pole he will eat provide and eat forever.

Thank you,

*Lehua Ka'auwai-Krueger*

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