



LATE TESTIMONY

PROTECTING HAWAII'S OHANA, CHILDREN, UNDER SERVED, ELDERLY AND DISABLED

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Alex Santiago

DATE: March 31, 2011

TO: Representative Marcus Oshiro, Chair Committee of Finance
Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair Committee of Finance

FROM: Alexander C. Santiago, Executive Director
PHOCUSED (Protecting Hawai'i's Ohana, Children, UnderServed,
Elderly and Disabled)

RE: SB 1293

Aloha Representative Marcus Oshiro, Chair, Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair, and members of the House committee on Finance. Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 1293.

My name is Alex Santiago, I am the Executive Director of PHOCUSED, an advocacy organization of Social Service agencies and individuals dedicated to advocating on behalf of the most vulnerable in our state.

We acknowledge the incredible financial crisis we are faced today and support the Department of human Services request for an emergency appropriation to address the budget shortfall in cash support, work programs, and the maintenance of efforts contracts as well as funding for the general assistance payments. We are ready to support the efforts of this Legislature to find the necessary funds to help our most vulnerable residents during these incredibly difficult times.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this measure.

Sincerely,

Alex Santiago
Executive director,
PHOCUSED