



Makana O Ke Akua Inc.
"Gift of God"
CLEAN AND SOBER LIVING
92-365 Malahuna Pl.
Kapolei, Hawaii 96707
Phone: (808) 778-7652 Fax: (808) 682-0420

LATE TESTIMONY

LATE

S. B. NO. 166
A BILL FOR AN ACT

**RELATING TO THE CLEAN AND SOBER HOME AND HALFWAY HOUSE
TASK FORCE**

Aloha

This letter is in support of the S. B. NO. 166. As a service provider in this field I am very concerned about some of these homes that are popping up all over our communities, for the benefit of the provider and not the individuals who are seeking solutions to their addiction. These homes are needed and one thing I do know you can't stop anyone from opening one; but with a task force we would be able to monitor these homes setting standards and accountability.

Homes that are not structured, well maintained and respectful in our communities can be more of a problem than a solution. Alcohol and drug addiction has been and continues to destroy our communities, workforce and most of all our families.

You as Law makers need to seriously consider passing this bill. This Bill will be the beginning of change and hopefully discourage those who seek profit more than providing a solution.

We as the Ohana's of Hawaii need to come together for our 50th State. We need to start looking at the solution to the problem and one of the solutions is to take a step towards change.

Again thru the passing of this Bill it will bring Change and start what is long overdue.

Making those of us who provide clean and sober homes and halfway houses accountable and Healthy in and for our Communities?

Also as the founder of the Coalition for Clean and Sober Homes, and our members we support and encourage you to pass this Bill and become part of making history.

In closing I'd like to thank all of you and Senator Espero for giving me the opportunity to speak on behalf of S. B. NO.166.

Mahalo and God Bless

John L. Dudoit Jr.

Oxford House Inc. – Hawaii

LATE

350 Ward Avenue Suite 106-9 Honolulu, Hawaii 96814 808.957.0324

For: S.B.166 Relating to Clean and Sober and Halfway House Task Force. Establishes a task force, within the department of health, to regulate clean and sober homes and halfway houses.

To: Senator Will Espero, Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Senator Glen Waka

Time: Friday, January 28, 2011, 2:45 PM, Conference Room 229

Oxford House Inc.

We are anxious to begin the necessary and serious work of SB166 Relating to Clean and Sober and Halfway House Task Force.

Oxford House Inc has operated continuously in Hawaii since 1991. We have 32 Oxford Houses in Hawaii accommodating 278 men and women in comfortable single family settings. We have received minimal complaints from neighbors, all of which have come from same Kailua Neighborhood.

The growth of Oxford Houses in Hawaii is a testament to the dire need of Sober Housing for people in recovery from substance abuse. We will join the task force and seek solutions to meet the state goals.

We will not however compromise the integrity of our program in any way. Through the years, we have helped thousands of people in Hawaii learn how to live sober using the Oxford House method of operations. Our success has been document in research conducted by DePaul University in Chicago Illinois.

Oxford House Supports SB 166 with Recommendations

Stakeholders

Many people from all walks of life apply to Oxford House and use our program to gain long term sobriety. Several organizations make referrals to all of the Oxford Houses. Perhaps those agencies whose clients utilize our homes should be represented on the task force. Those agencies include Department of Public Safety including Parole and Probation, the Judiciary including all the Drug Courts programs and Hope Probation.

Summary:

Oxford Houses are self-run, self-supported houses that have been in continual existence for over 35 years in 47 States throughout our country. We are honored to be included in the Hawaii State Task Force on Sober Houses. It is our hope that we are able to come to a conclusion on this issue and that we may continue our service to those citizens who need our help.

I appreciate the opportunity to testify and am available for questions.

Joe Chavez
Outreach Services
Oxford House Inc - HI