

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



BARBARA A. KRIEG
INTERIM DIRECTOR

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
235 S. BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2437

January 23, 2012

TESTIMONY TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT

For Hearing on Tuesday, January 24, 2012
9:00 a.m., Conference Room 309

BY

BARBARA A. KRIEG
INTERIM DIRECTOR

House Bill No. 1698
Relating to Qualified Community Rehabilitation Programs

TO CHAIRPERSON RHOADS AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

The purpose of H. B. No. 1698 is to repeal the requirement for the Department of Human Resources Development (DHRD) to submit annual reports to the Legislature regarding expenditures of qualified community rehabilitation programs.

The Department of Human Resources Development **strongly supports** this measure. Act 213, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008, amended section 76-77(16), Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), to modify a statutory exemption from civil service applicable to the counties of Hawaii, Maui and Kauai, by setting a higher monetary limitation for contract services with qualified community rehabilitation programs. The Act also instructed DHRD to submit annual reports to the Legislature regarding "expenditures of qualified rehabilitation programs and related activities."

Section 76-77, HRS, applies only to the three counties, not to the State. Because DHRD administers the human resources program for the State, pursuant to section 26-5, HRS, and the county personnel directors are the chief administrators of

their respective county human resources programs, information about county expenditures is not available to DHRD. Furthermore, because the statutory provision does not permit the state executive branch to contract with qualified community rehabilitation programs as specified in section 76-77(16), HRS, DHRD does not have anything to report on behalf of the State. Therefore, we request your favorable consideration to repeal the reporting requirement.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.