

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



PATRICIA MCMANAMAN  
DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

P. O. Box 339  
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February 6, 2012

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

FROM: Patricia McManaman, Director

SUBJECT: **H.B. 2843 – RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET  
RESERVE FUND**

Hearing: Monday, February 2 2012; 8:30a.m.  
Conference Room 329, State Capitol

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this bill is to appropriate money from the emergency and budget reserve fund for child abuse and neglect social services.

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) appreciates the intent of this bill. With the fragile state of the State's economy, DHS supports Administrative bill S.B. 2784 that recapitalizes the emergency and budget reserve fund.

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

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**Testimony on HB 2843, RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND**

House Committee on Human Services

Chair: Rep. John Mizuno and Vice-Chair Rep. Jo Jordan

Monday, February 6, 2012, 8:30 a.m.

Conference Room 329

Testimony submitted by: Howard S. Garval,  
President & CEO, Child & Family Service

Good morning, Chair Mizuno and Vice-Chair Jordan and Committee members. I am Howard S. Garval, President & CEO of Child & Family Service, Hawaii's oldest and most comprehensive human service nonprofit organization with services on every island and touching the lives of 40,000 Hawaii residents from keiki to kupuna each year. I am testifying in support of HB 2843.

The November 2011 news about \$5.8 million in cuts to child welfare human services programs makes it clear that the "Rainy Day" continues in Hawaii. The Legislature is to be congratulated and thanked for passing the Rainy Day Fund bill two sessions ago and passing SB 1288 last session to extend the expenditure of the funds through 6/30/12. The Governor deserves our gratitude for his announcement of the release of the funds. However, these funds were one-time only appropriations that end by June 30, 2012 and without the appropriation of additional funds, this will amount to another cut to human services programs, organizations, and most important the reduction of services to people in need of child abuse prevention, child welfare and treatment services.

In particular this bill provides support for critical services related to child abuse and child welfare. We must do all we can to prevent child abuse and previous Rainy Day funds helped save the Healthy Start program from total elimination. It is essential that we reach families before there is ever a report of child abuse rather than after the fact. However, this bill also supports important programs that treat children who have been physically/sexually abused and child welfare programs that were reduced or eliminated in November 2011 by DHS.

We certainly are hopeful that our economy continues to improve and that state general funds will eventually be able to support some of these critical services. We can then build back the Rainy Day Fund for future economic downturns.

I ask for your support of HB 2843.

Mahalo for providing the opportunity to submit testimony.

With Aloha,

Howard S. Garval, MSW  
President & CEO  
Child & Family Service



Aloha United Way

*Our Mission: Strengthening Families and Fostering the Healthy Development of Children*

Testimony for HUS 2/6/2012 8:30:00 AM HB2843

Conference room: 329

Testifier position: Support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Brenda Kosky

Organization: Individual

E-mail: [Brenda.Kosky@gmail.com](mailto:Brenda.Kosky@gmail.com)

Submitted on: 2/4/2012

Comments:

**From:** Bertil Fox [mailto:foxhawaii2010@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 05, 2012 3:04 PM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB2843

I support HB2843, to providing Emergency and Budget Reserve Funds for social service providers to prevent child abuse and neglect.

David Simms

Testimony for HUS 2/6/2012 8:30:00 AM HB2843

Conference room: 329

Testifier position: Support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Dara Carlin, M.A.

Organization: Individual

E-mail: [breaking-the-silence@hotmail.com](mailto:breaking-the-silence@hotmail.com) Submitted on: 2/6/2012

Comments: