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February 27, 2014

RE: HB1841 HD1 Homeless

In Strong Support

TO: House Chair, Vice Chair and members of the House

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair and Members,

Rainbow Family 808 proudly supports HB1841 HD1 for the benefit of all families in Hawaii. Included in the homeless population on all islands are youth living on the beaches and the streets of our state,

As a social worker and community-concerned citizen since 1981, I have seen the harm of poverty in our state. It certainly isn't in keeping with caring for our o`hana or in the spirit of Aloha.

In 1948, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was signed at the United Nations. This rights are more detailed than the US Bill of Rights and need to be considered with HB1488 on Minimum Wages.

In particular, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 25 pertains to HB1488:

- (1) Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.

Justice is a journey that needs to be addressed with housing for all our children, especially our youth who have run away from abuse in their own homes. This silent population has no one to speak for them. Rainbow Family 808.com speaks for those whose families have turned them out. Once this becomes law, the families could be charged for food, shelter and daily needs to replenish the funds for the victims of neglect.

Please focus on the needs of the youth and pass HB1841 HD1 for the benefit of all our youth, families and individual homeless.

Thank you,

Carolyn Martinez Golojuch, MSW

President – Rainbow Family 808.com