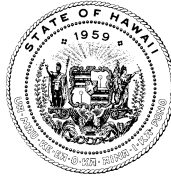


LATE



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS**

P. O. BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

TESTIMONY OF JOBIE M. K. MASAGATANI, CHAIRMAN DESIGNATE
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
IN SUPPORT OF

HB 200, RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

March 6, 2013

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, Vice-Chair Johanson, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) urges your committee's concurrence with the Governor's Executive Budget request for our program, HHL 602 - Planning and Development for Hawaiian Homesteads. In HB 200, as introduced, \$14.68 million in general funds are requested to cover our department's existing personnel, administrative, and operating costs. This figure was derived from the FY 2012 actual administrative and operating costs expenditures and changes means of financing from special and trust funding in FY 2012 to general funding for FY 2014.

In addition to the request for general funds, the current version of the budget bill includes requests for \$7.67 million in special funds and \$23.32 million in federal funds that DHHL receives from the Native American Housing and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA).

The department administers one (1) program, HHL 602, Planning and Development for Hawaiian Homesteads. The intent of the homesteading

program is to increase the economic self-sufficiency of native Hawaiians through the provision of land. The Department is the only organization serving native Hawaiians that is able to provide its clientele with land. At the present time the Department must use its special and trust funds to finance all of its administrative and operating costs. No general fund support is provided by the State for the department's operations since FY 2010. What this means is that special and trust funds, which would otherwise be used for direct benefits to our beneficiaries such as loan monies for home building must be used to pay for DHHL's administrative and operating expenses.

As you are aware, the Hawaii Supreme Court ruling on May 9, 2012, on *Nelson v. Hawaiian Homes Commission* has a significant impact on our budget request for FY 2014 and FY 2015. Article XII, Section 1 of the State Constitution requires that the Legislature make sufficient sums available for development of homestead lots, homestead loans, rehabilitation projects and for DHHL administrative and operating expenses. The recent ruling affirms that the courts can determine what constitutes "sufficient sums" for the DHHL's administrative and operating expenses to carry out the purposes of the Hawaiian Homes Commissions Act, 1920, as amended. While we await a final ruling on what constitutes "sufficient", the Executive Budget request for HHL 602 before you now represents a minimum sum that is required for DHHL to operate sufficiently.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support.

LATE

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Commenting on H.B. 200 Relating to the State Budget
House Committee on Finance
Wednesday, March 6, 2013, 2:00PM, Room 308

The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a private non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which life in these islands depends. The Conservancy has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i. Today, we actively manage more than 35,000 acres in 11 nature preserves on Maui, Hawai'i, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, and Kaua'i. We also work closely with government agencies, private parties and communities on cooperative land and marine management projects.

The Nature Conservancy expresses support for the budget requests of the Department of Land and Natural Resources and the Department of Agriculture and calls particular attention to necessary and important funding for:

- DLNR Div. of Forestry & Wildlife watershed and invasive species programs (LNR 407)
- DLNR Div. of Aquatic Resources Aquatic Invasive Species Team FTEs (LNR 401)
- HDOA Plant Quarantine and Plant Pest Control programs and staff (AGR 122)

While it's heartening to hear discussion this session about providing additional general funds to these departments for enhancing watershed protection and invasive species prevention and control, we are only cautiously optimistic. Past Legislatures and Administrations over many decades have only allocated a miniscule fraction of general fund revenue to these purposes. These are programs that—whether or not you care about individual plants or animals or see yourself as an “environmentalist”—help to ensure that all of us humans can survive and thrive in the middle of the Pacific ocean. They protect the forests that are the source of all our drinking water, they prevent and control bugs and diseases that harm our agriculture and sicken our people, but yet we nickel and dime them as if they were luxuries.

For this reason, The Nature Conservancy and our partners have come to you year in and year out with recommendations for dedicated funding to protect the sources of our fresh water and to prevent and control invasive pests that can have a massive financial cost if left unchecked and severe negative impacts on the health and well-being of our tourist and agricultural economies and on our human population.

While the Legislature seems willing to reallocate barrel tax revenue (HB 857) to its originally intended and important purposes of promoting our agriculture and energy security, the House last night recommitted the bag fee legislation (HB 357) and this Finance Committee did not hear conveyance tax legislation (HB 935). These bills that died in the House would have provided dedicated funding for watersheds and invasive species. We truly appreciate and do not mean to minimize the very challenging financial decisions you as legislators must make on behalf of us all. However, we do ask that you consider the critical importance of protecting the health and, most importantly, the function of our limited and exhaustible natural resources that allow our very survival in these islands.

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U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Department of Defense
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Testimony of the HAWAII INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

Before the House Committee on FINANCE

Wednesday, March 6, 2013
Hawaii State Capitol, Rm 308

In consideration of HOUSE BILL 200, RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

House Bill 200 establishes the State biennium budget for FY2013-2015. This bill includes a line item to establish eight Vector Control Worker positions. These positions are requested on page 763 of the Executive Biennium Budget, Fiscal Budget 2013-2015 Multi-Year Program and Financial Plan, under section HTH 610: Environmental Health Services, subsection B.2. **The Hawaii Invasive Species Council strongly supports the establishment of these positions.**

Vector Control is a critical and necessary program for the protection of Hawaii against vector borne diseases. Among other functions, Vector Control Workers monitor ports of entry for disease vectors, including mosquitoes. Mosquitoes are a non-native, invasive species in Hawaii, and some species of mosquito have the ability to carry avian diseases (e.g. avian influenza) and/or human diseases (e.g. yellow fever, dengue fever, malaria). The Department of Health's Vector Control Branch was sharply reduced under the previous administration, causing the loss of these monitoring and prevention services.

To ensure the health of Hawaii's native bird species and the health of Hawaii's resident and visitor populations, Vector Control Workers are needed to monitor and control for these disease vectors. Further, Hawaii's tourism industry benefits greatly from the relative lack of mosquito-borne diseases in Hawaii. Therefore, the Hawaii Invasive Species Council strongly supports the establishment of eight Vector Control Worker positions under House Bill 200.

The Hawaii Invasive Species Council is an interagency collaboration established by Chapter 194, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for the purpose of cabinet-level direction on invasive species prevention, control, research, and outreach issues in Hawaii.

LATE

**FAMILY LIFE CENTER
95 S. KANE ST.
KAHULUI, HI. 96732
PHONE (808)877-0880 FAX (808) 877-4443**

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 200: RELATING TO THE STATE
BUDGET**

TO: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair; Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto,
Vice Chair, Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair, and
Members, Committee on Finance

FROM: Maude Cumming, Executive Director, Family Life Center

Hearing: Wednesday, 3/6/13 ; 2:00 PM; CR 308

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair Johanson and Members, Committee on
Finance:

Thank you for the opportunity to **strongly support funding for Housing First which is
included in the Department of Human Services (HMS) funding for homeless.** I am
Maude Cumming, Executive Director of Family Life Center located in Kahului, Maui.

- This funding is critical to continue the implementation of the Housing First model in
Hawaii. The public pays a heavy cost when people are chronically homeless on the
streets. Public costs can be decreased by 79% by providing supportive housing with
services.
- Neighborhoods and businesses are impacted by homeless sleeping on their streets.
The impact on tourism is of great concern since this is Hawaii's economic driver.

The Housing First program has proven its success in many states as a way to more
effectively address the chronically homeless. These homeless are often the most visible
homeless, living in our neighborhoods, doorways, under bridges, etc. These persons
experience homelessness over a long period of time and incur very significant public
costs. Housing First assists them to gain permanent housing and then provides the
services needed to keep them in housing and successfully transition off the streets..

We urge your support for \$1.5 million in funding for the Housing First program.
This increase would enable Housing First to expand beyond urban Honolulu to other
areas, including the Neighbor Islands. We desperately need this kind of program on
Maui.

We urge your support to continue and expand Housing First to reduce the public costs
and to move the most vulnerable off our streets. Thank you.



Testimony of Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice
Supporting HB 200 Relating to the State Budget
House Committee on Finance
Scheduled for Hearing Wednesday, March 6, 2013, 2:00 PM, Room 308

Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) law firm created to advocate on behalf of low income individuals and families in Hawai'i on civil legal issues of statewide importance. Our core mission is to help our clients gain access to the resources, services, and fair treatment that they need to realize their opportunities for self-achievement and economic security.

Thank you for an opportunity to testify in **strong support of funding Housing First programs**, which is included in the Department of Human Services funding for homeless. **\$1.5 million**, as requested in the Governor's budget, will enable this invaluable program to continue as well as to expand beyond urban Honolulu and help the chronically homeless people on the neighbor islands.

Housing First saves lives.

- Housing First is an evidence-based practice that reduces chronic homelessness, improves the health and well-being of formerly homeless individuals, and lowers costs, including those related to emergency services and incarceration. Those placed in housing show improved mental and physical health, decreases in substance use, and overall quality of life.
- The Housing First model stabilizes individuals' housing situation and provides comprehensive support services so that participants can address the other issues they face, such as mental illness, substance abuse, and chronic health conditions. The approach has a proven record of success and is recognized by the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness as a "best practice."
- Both rural and urban areas around the country have used housing first to reduce homelessness. For example, Utah's statewide implementation of a housing first program has resulted in an incredible 72 percent decrease in the number of chronically homeless individuals since 2005.

Housing first saves money.

- Visits to emergency rooms, hospitalizations, outpatient treatment, detox services, incarceration, and shelter utilization are dramatically reduced when chronically homeless individuals are placed in supportive housing.
- A Seattle-based controlled study by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and published in the Journal of the American Medical Association found that placing 95 chronically homeless alcoholic individuals saved state and local governments \$4 million in the first year alone.
- The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority's Homeless Cost Avoidance Study found a 79% reduction in public costs per homeless adult once they were placed in supportive housing. Denver, Colorado saw a 73% reduction in emergency -related costs through a Housing First program, according to the Denver Housing First Collaborative's Cost Benefit Analysis.

In Honolulu, eighteen of the fifty most frequent 911 callers are homeless; the average cost for each of these top callers is \$140,000 annually. By assessing the most medically vulnerable homeless individuals and placing them into housing first programs, we can expect to see a dramatic decrease in these costs and a net cost savings.

Housing first is a proven, cost-effective program that reduces chronic homelessness and saves lives.



PARTNERS IN CARE

Oahu's Coalition of Homeless Providers

LATE

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 200: RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

TO: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair; Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair, Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair, and Members, Committee on Finance

FROM: Gladys Peraro, Co-Chair Advocacy Committee, Partners In Care (PIC)

Hearing: Wednesday, 3/6/13; 2:00 PM; CR 308

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair Johanson and Members, Committee on Finance:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony **strongly supporting funding for Housing First**, which is included in the Department of Human Services funding for homeless, as presented in HB 200. I am Gladys Peraro, Advocacy Committee Co-Chair for Partners In Care (PIC), a coalition of care providers focusing on the needs of homeless persons and strategies to end homelessness in Hawaii.

The Housing First program model with supportive services has been utilized in many states as a way to address the needs of chronically homeless individuals, who are often the most vulnerable and visible- living unsheltered in streets, doorways, parks, on beaches, under bridges, and in other places not meant for habitation. The consequence of persons experiencing long-term chronic homelessness exacts a substantial cost to the public. Public costs can be **decreased by 79%** by providing supportive housing with services.

In 2012 Partners In Care provider agencies participated in **the 100,000 Homes Campaign**, during which one hundred (100) medically fragile unsheltered homeless individuals were identified on Oahu, for which homeless providers continue to work collaborative and with a sense of urgency to house these very vulnerable individuals. However, housing is only the first step – they will need ongoing services to ensure that their health and social needs are addressed and their quality of life improved.

Partners In Care provider agencies urge your support for the **\$1.5 million** in funding for the Housing First program. The benefits of the Housing First model extend well beyond the neighborhoods but to the urban areas and other areas including the Neighbor Islands of Hawaii, in which businesses will realize an increase in tourism, Hawaii's economic driver.

Partners In Care respectfully urges your support to continue and expand Housing First to reduce the public costs and to move the most vulnerable off our streets and into appropriate housing. Thank you for your support.

Partners In Care, c/o Aloha United Way, 200 N. Vineyard Blvd. Suite 700
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

Partners in Care is a membership organization of homeless service providers, other service professionals, units of local and state government, homeless consumers, and other community representatives located in Hawai'i on O'ahu. It is a planning, coordinating, and advocacy body that develops recommendations for programs and services to fill gaps in the Continuum of Care on O'ahu.

LATE



CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAII

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 200: RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

TO: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair; Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair, Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair, and Members, Committee on Finance

FROM: Betty Lou Larson, Legislative Liaison, Catholic Charities Hawaii

Hearing: Wednesday, 3/6/13 ; 2:00 PM; CR 308

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair Johanson and Members, Committee on Finance:

Thank you for the opportunity to **strongly support funding for Housing First which is included in the Department of Human Services (HMS) funding for homeless**. I am Betty Lou Larson, Legislative Liaison at Catholic Charities Hawaii.

- This funding is critical to continue the implementation of the Housing First model in Hawaii. The public pays a heavy cost when people are chronically homeless on the streets. Public costs can be decreased by 79% by providing supportive housing with services.
- The City of Seattle found that housing 95 homeless persons with alcoholism saved the city \$4 million in the first year of operation. It cost \$13,440 per person (including housing costs) to administer their housing first program, compared with a cost of \$86,062 per person annually before Housing First.
- A 10/28/12 article in the Star-Bulletin on the 50 most frequent users of 911 found that 36% of these callers were homeless. Of the top 50 users of 911, the direct costs for ambulance and ER services was conservatively estimated at \$2.6 million/year. When projected hospitalizations were included, the cost could be as high as \$7 million annually, about \$140,000 per person. **On average, the 18 homeless frequent callers would be costing the state \$936,000 for direct costs only, without including hospitalizations.**
- Neighborhoods and businesses are impacted by homeless sleeping on their streets. The impact on tourism is of great concern since this is Hawaii's economic driver.

The Housing First program has proven its success in many states as a way to more effectively address the chronically homeless. These homeless are often the most visible homeless, living in our neighborhoods, doorways, under bridges, etc. These persons experience homelessness over a long period of time and incur very significant public costs. Housing First assists them to gain permanent housing and then provides the services needed to keep them in housing and successfully transition off the streets.

We urge your support for \$1.5 million in funding for the Housing First program. This increase would enable Housing First to expand beyond urban Honolulu to other areas, including the Neighbor Islands. This funding would reduce the high public costs for the State and move the most vulnerable off our streets. Thank you.



CLARENCE T. C. CHING CAMPUS • 1822 Ke'eaumoku Street, Honolulu, HI 96822
Phone (808)373-0356 -- bettylou.larson@catholiccharitieshawaii.org

• www.CatholicCharitiesHawaii.org



LATE

HB200

Submitted on: 3/6/2013

Testimony for FIN on Mar 6, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Breatrice Hew Len, Treasurer	Sovereign Moku Council o Oahu	Support	No

Comments:

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HB200

Submitted on: 3/5/2013

Testimony for FIN on Mar 6, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Holly Holowach	Holomua Na Ohana	Support	No

Comments: Housing First can SAVE the state money. Look at the facts from Seattle where the Housing First Model has been successful. Housing 95 homeless people with alcoholism saved the city of Seattle \$4 million in the first year of operation. Each person housed had cost state and local governments \$86,062 annually before, compared with \$13,440 to administer the Housing First program. They compiled the most expensive users of services and used that as the target population. The Housing First program has proven its success in many states as a way to more effectively address the chronically homeless. These homeless are often the most visible homeless, living in our neighborhoods, doorways, under bridges, etc. These persons experience homelessness over a long period of time and incur very significant public costs. Housing First assists them to gain permanent housing and then provides the services needed to keep them in housing and successfully transition off the streets. We have just started this program here and need your support to continue housing these most vulnerable people. It works! We urge your support for \$1.5 million in funding for the Housing First program. This increase would enable Housing First to expand beyond urban Honolulu to other areas, including the Neighbor Islands. This funding would reduce the high public costs for the State and move the most vulnerable off our streets. We all know that the homeless problem has been getting worse instead of better. Taking away funding for this program would make it worse. Please fund this very important, very successful solution! Thank you.

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HB200

Submitted on: 3/6/2013

Testimony for FIN on Mar 6, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Yamakawa	Child & Family Service	Support	No

Comments: Strong support for home visitation funds in Department of Health budget.

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Request your support for the two subject bills that will allow CFS to provide needed services.

Dwight Kealoha | President & CEO

Tel: 808-536-6956 ext 313

Toll-Free NI: 877-222-6551

FAX: 808-628-3983

Email: dkealoha@hawaii.bbb.org

www.bbb.org | *Start With Trust*

Better Business Bureau of Hawaii
1132 Bishop Street #615
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



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HB200

Submitted on: 3/6/2013

Testimony for FIN on Mar 6, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Herbert Hew Len, President	Waianae Kai Homestead	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted on: 3/6/2013

Testimony for FIN on Mar 6, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Annie Au Hoon, President	SCHHA	Support	No

Comments: Kewalo support the DHHL's budget request of \$14.7 as submitted in the governors package. Kewalo fully supports this request to place the ownness of operating and administering the dept upon the State and not on our trust dollars as in the past 20+ years.

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HB200

Submitted on: 3/6/2013

Testimony for FIN on Mar 6, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Midge Eli, Director ~ KupunA	Nanakuli Homestead	Support	No

Comments: We support the DHHL's budget request of \$14.7 as submitted in the governors package. Nanakuli Homestead fully supports this request to place the ownness of operating and administering the dept upon the State and not on our trust dollars as in the past 20+ years.

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HB200

Submitted on: 3/5/2013

Testimony for FIN on Mar 6, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lindsea K. Wilbur	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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HB200

Submitted on: 3/5/2013

Testimony for FIN on Mar 6, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Monica Evslin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please consider generously funding the family centers (Hale Ho'omalua and Nana's House) on Kaua'i. They do a world of good, helping the neediest of the needy in so many areas --- drug addiction, child abuse, spouse abuse, , smoking cessation, homelessness, free food and clothing, counseling, etc. The centers offer support to those who have no place else to go for assistance. Hundreds of Kauaians donate clothing, toys, food and money to these centers, but times are hard and additional funds are essential. I write as one of the chairs of The Kaua'i Guild, the volunteer arm of Child and Family Service. I donate hundreds of hours myself only because the cause is so worthy and the needs so great. Please open your hearts and purse strings. Mahalo.

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HB200

Submitted on: 3/5/2013

Testimony for FIN on Mar 6, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Arnold Martines	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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HB200

Submitted on: 3/6/2013

Testimony for FIN on Mar 6, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jonathan H. Steiner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a Member of the Board of Directors of Child & Family Service, and a member of the community, I support this bill.

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HB200

Submitted on: 3/6/2013

Testimony for FIN on Mar 6, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Thelma Akita-Kealoha	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in support of the Housing first HB 200 bill. I live on Maui, our county I am sure you are aware of, consists of three different islands. It is so difficult for us to assist many folks on the island, resources are so limited. I could give you statistics and information on savings this program would provide to the State and Counties but you already have that information from many of the agencies that also support this bill. Please give Housing ?Frist your support! Thelma Akita-Kealoha

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www.childandfamilyservice.org

LATE



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Hawaii Island
United Way

Maui United Way

Kauai United Way



Testimony on HB200 RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

House Committee on Finance

Wednesday, March 6, 2013, 2:00 p.m.

Conference Room 308

State Capitol

Testimony submitted by: Amy Vasconcellos, RN, Enhanced Healthy Start
Child & Family Service

Strong Support for Home Visitation Funds in Department of Health Budget in HB200

Aloha, Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, and Committee members. I am Amy Vasconcellos, Registered Nurse with Enhanced Healthy Start, Child & Family Service, and I am testifying in strong support of HB200. I specifically endorse the Department of Health's budget request for \$3 million in general funds for Home Visitation Services to prevent child abuse.

Ensuring a safe and supportive home environment is necessary for the healthy growth and development of Hawaii's keiki. Healthy Start (Healthy Families America) helps to strengthen families and foster the healthy development of children by intervening in high-risk families before there is a report of child abuse to Child Welfare Services. Furthermore, over 99% of families serviced by Healthy Start for a period of 12 months or longer reported no further instances of child abuse and neglect, which speaks highly to the efficacy of the program. Child abuse can and must be prevented and it is my firm belief that Healthy Start is an integral component of this process.

Mahalo for providing the opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely,

Amy J. Vasconcellos, RN, Enhanced Healthy Start, Child & Family Service

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March 6, 2013



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Testimony on HB200 Relating to the State Budget
House Finance Committee Hearing

Wednesday, March 6, 2013, 2 p.m., Room 308, State Capitol

Testimony submitted by Amy Vasconcellos, RN, Enhanced Healthy Start,
Child & Family Service

Chair Rep. Sylvia Luke, Vice-Chair Rep. Scott Nishimoto, and Vice-
Chair Rep. Aaron Johanson and Committee Members:

I am Amy Vasconcellos, Registered Nurse in Enhanced Healthy Start,
Child & Family Service (CFS). **This testimony is in strong support for
the budget request from the Department of Human Services for
Neighborhood Drop-In Centers under Blueprint for Change.**

I believe that Neighborhood Drop-In Centers are a critical aspect of the
service system to prevent child abuse and neglect. Not only are they in-
credibly helpful to the families they serve, but they could end up saving
the State of Hawaii hundreds of thousands of dollars per year.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of the
Neighborhood Places.

Aloha,

Amy Vasconcellos, RN, Enhanced Healthy Start
Child & Family Service