SB 923

Measure Title: RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES.

Report Title: Appropriation; Network Enterprises, Inc. (\$)

Appropriates funds as a grant to Network Enterprises, Inc. to establish a maintenance program that provides employment for

Description: persons with disabilities, unemployed veterans, public housing

residents, and socially and economically disadvantaged people in

need of employment.

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: HMS, WAM

Introducer(s): CHUN OAKLAND



STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY 1002 NORTH SCHOOL STREET Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

BARBARA E. ARASHIRO EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Statement of
Hakim Ouansafi
Hawaii Public Housing Authority
Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

January 31, 2013 1:15 P.M. Room 016, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of Senate Bill 923 Relating to Human Services

Honorable Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services, thank you for the opportunity to provide you with comments regarding Senate Bill (S.B.) 923, relating to human services.

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) <u>supports</u> the enactment of this measure, which appropriates funds as a grant to Network Enterprises, Inc. to establish a maintenance program that provides employment for persons with disabilities, unemployed veterans, public housing residents, and socially and economically disadvantaged people in need of employment. The agency supports this and any other measure that aims to assist HPHA tenants with employment opportunities that will assist them in transitioning into permanent housing, provided that its passage does not adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Biennium Budget.

The HPHA appreciates the opportunity to provide the Senate Committee on Human Services with the agency's position regarding S.B. 923. We respectfully request the Committee to pass this measure favorably, and we thank you very much for your dedicated support.

Network Enterprises, Inc. 3375 Koapaka St., Ste. F220-35 Honolulu, Hawaii 96819 Phone: (808) 833-1923

Fax: (808) 833-3676

Network Enterprises, Inc.

January 30, 2013 Testimony of Network Enterprises, Inc. (NEI) Supporting SB923

Senator Chun Oakland and Member of the Senate Human Services Committee

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB923. I am Rene Berthiaume, Vice President of Network Enterprises, Inc. (NEI). NEI is a non-profit community rehabilitation program that provides vocational rehabilitation, job training, job placement and support services for persons in Hawaii with physical, social, economic and intellectual challenges. NEI is requesting funding to be used for the establishment of a Maintenance Component that will provide temporary/transitional employment and training services for the clients who serve. Currently, NEI does not have an in-house transitional component which is an important and much needed step to competitive employment and self-sufficiency. Due to severe budget cuts, NEI does not have the resources to establish this program without the help of State funding. This program will go a long way in providing meaningful employment and training for some of Hawaii's most needy.

In the interest of time, I will refer to our formal GIA Application which has been submitted and made available to the committee for detailed information on our request.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to testify and for your consideration.

Respectfully Submitted, Rene Berthiaume, Vice President, Network Enterprises, Inc.

Carswell J. Ross Jr., M.A. (CMSgt, U.S. AF Ret.) 94-1020 Puana Street Waipahu HI, 96797-4303

Presentation to: COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 923: RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES

January 31, 2013

Good afternoon Chair Oakland and Vice Chair Green, and members of the Committee. I am Carswell Ross, a board member of Network Enterprises Inc. I appreciate this opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 923. The purpose of this bill is to grant Network Enterprises, Inc. an amount necessary to establish a maintenance program for individuals with disabilities, unemployed veterans, public housing residents, and socially and economically disadvantaged people in need of employment who may not be able to secure employment because they have no recent work history.

The program that Network seeks to establish will give these individuals an opportunity to demonstrate that they are work ready, establish good work habits, and receive counseling and supportive assistance through and organized evaluation of their skills and abilities.

Based upon assessments and review of their work habits, these individuals can be referred to apply for long term employment that is not subsidized. We have found that employment not only increases a person's self-esteem it also increases their economic well-being.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer my comments in support of SB 923.

From: <u>mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov</u>

To: HMS Testimony
Cc: chinooker@gmail.com

Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB923 on Jan 31, 2013 13:15PM*

Date: Sunday, January 27, 2013 1:02:33 PM

SB923

Submitted on: 1/27/2013

Testimony for HMS on Jan 31, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Daniel Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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