

LATE

Aloha, Chair Carroll and Committee members:

Please forgive the late testimony, but I had to offer my strong support for Senate Bill 2202. The purpose of the food/excise tax credit has been undermined by not adjusting the credit to inflation. The legislation you are considering will, once again, enable our low and moderate-income families to stay afloat or rise from poverty.

Our cost of living far exceeds that of any other state in the nation and our rate of poverty ranks among the top. Safeguards such as the food/excise credit were designed and worked effectively towards helping our struggling working families not rely on government subsidies.

Adopting the bill to account for the inevitable rise in the Consumer Price Index will permanently equip the initiative with teeth and allow it to do what it can: help Hawaii's families who need it to get by.

Taking a proactive role in creating an environment for our low and moderate-income families to survive and thrive will lead to the dignity, prosperity, and hope that is necessary to make Hawai'i the paradise we all know it can be.

I strongly urge you to amend Senate Bill 2202 to index the food/excise tax credit to increases in the Consumer Price Index so we don't, once again, lose the ground we're working towards to inflation. This is not creating a new mechanism to help our needy families; amending SB 2202 will allow the credit to do what it was designed for and is proven to do: **HELP OUR STRUGGLING FAMILIES.**

Very truly yours,

Jason Parasco

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2014 9:12 PM
To: HUS testimony
Cc: paulakomarajr@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2202 on Mar 18, 2014 09:45AM*



SB2202

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul A. komara, Jr.	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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