



**EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS**  
HONOLULU

**DAVID Y. IGE**  
GOVERNOR

June 24, 2020

**TO:** The Honorable Representative Tom Brower, Chair  
House Committee on Housing

**FROM:** Scott Morishige, MSW, Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness

**SUBJECT: SB2206 SD1 Proposed HD1 – RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS**

Hearing: Wednesday, June 24, 2020, 1:30 p.m.  
Conference Room 325, State Capitol

**POSITION:** The Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness appreciates the intent of the proposed HD1, and respectfully offers comments.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of the proposed HD1 is to authorize Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) to issue temporary revocable leases for emergency homeless camps during the COVID-19 crisis.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, programs have been established to provide homeless and unsheltered individuals with places to safely isolate, have access to hygiene facilities, and practice social distancing to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. These programs include the City & County of Honolulu's Provisional Outdoor Screening and Triage (POST) program and the establishment of tiny home communities in Hawaii and Maui Counties. While many of the efforts to address homelessness during COVID-19 are supported by State and local governments, there are also efforts supported by community members and private funds.

Of particular concern are community and privately supported camps that are on public lands, without access to basic hygiene facilities, that are not sanctioned by the government entity who has oversight of the land, and may exist in a recognized flood zones or other hazard that require mitigation to address the level of risk to public health and safety.

This bill would give BLNR to authority to issue month to month revocable permits to be used for the temporary emergency sheltering of and facilities for homeless persons on state lands. From a positive perspective, this bill would potentially increase the number of parcels of State land available for unsheltered homeless individuals to exercise social distancing, quarantine and isolation, and have access to hygiene facilities; the measure may provide a mechanism for the State to regulate previously unsanctioned encampments for a temporary period due to the emergency nature of the pandemic.

However, if the intent of the measure is to address the increased shelter needs to minimize and mitigate the spread of COVID 19, the Coordinator notes that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued specific guidance for local government regarding homeless encampments, which includes recommendations to “encourage those staying in encampments to set up their tents/sleeping quarters with at least 12 feet x 12 feet of space per individual” and “if toilets or handwashing facilities are not available nearby, assist with providing access to portable latrines with handwashing facilities for encampments of more than 10 people.”<sup>i</sup> The CDC guidance also encourages local governments to suspend clearance of encampments if individual housing options are not available. If this bill is passed, provisions to require minimal adherence to the CDC guidance should be given consideration.

While there is a need to provide short-term options to address the imminent health and safety risks associated with COVID-19, the Coordinator cautions that the issuance of short-term revocable permits and sanctioning of existing encampments should not be viewed as a long-term strategy to addressing homelessness and should be viewed in the context of the pandemic. In addition, any lands considered for emergency sheltering or similar facilities should be properly vetted to ensure that the lands are not located in a flood or tsunami inundation zones, have suitable infrastructure and road access, are zoned appropriately for residential use, and do not pose any other imminent life safety concerns.

Finally, the Coordinator acknowledges the efforts of BLNR to identify suitable State lands for a number of homeless initiatives, including Kahauiki Village, Hale Mauiola, the County of Hawaii’s Village 9 site, and the POST program. In these efforts, BLNR identified land and partnered with the Counties or another government entity to lead efforts related to

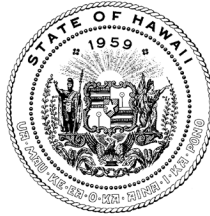
construction and any necessary delivery of social services. The Proposed HD1 would allow for a similar partnership between BLNR and another government entity before any revocable permit is issued.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

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<sup>i</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2020). Interim Guidance on Unsheltered Homelessness and Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) for Homeless Service Providers and Local Officials. Retrieved from: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/unsheltered-homelessness.html>

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF  
HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of  
SUZANNE D. CASE  
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on  
HOUSING**

**Wednesday, June 24, 2020  
1:30 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of  
SENATE BILL 2206, SENATE DRAFT 2, PROPOSED HOUSE DRAFT 1  
RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS**

Senate Bill 2206, Senate Draft 2, Proposed House Draft 1 proposes to allow the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Board) to issue revocable permits for temporary emergency sheltering of and facilities for homeless persons on state lands under conditions and rent which will best serve the interests of the State. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) offers the following comments.**

The Department has been working with numerous agencies, non-profit organizations and individuals to attempt to identify lands suitable for temporary emergency homeless shelters. Remaining lands in the state lands inventory are typically remote or already in commercial or agricultural use, lack infrastructure, or are at risk of flooding. These issues require enormous resources and time to mitigate.

The bill proposes to require people residing on state lands to indemnify the State in writing. The Department is concerned about the actual effectiveness of this indemnity should the State need to invoke it.

Further, the bill is drafted to sunset on June 30, 2022. Linking the repeal date of the bill with the termination of the emergency proclamation issued by the Governor regarding COVID-19 may be more appropriate in view of the constantly changing situation regarding the virus. If the sunset date is three months upon the lifting of any Governor's emergency proclamation regarding COVID-19, people residing on state lands pursuant to a revocable permit issued pursuant to this bill would have enough time to vacate the state lands or receive social services from other government or non-profit agencies. Nevertheless, the Department anticipates the repossession of

**SUZANNE D. CASE**  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**ROBERT K. MASUDA**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**M. KALEO MANUEL**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

state lands upon sunset of this bill would be challenging because of the difficulty in locating housing alternatives for people residing on the state lands. The Department expects that any government, non-profit agency, or individual awarded a revocable permit pursuant to this measure would provide social services for the relocation of residents as well as pay for all land remediation costs, including environmental clean-up, upon termination of the revocable permit.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor

JOSH GREEN  
Lt. Governor



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER  
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

MORRIS ATTA  
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
1428 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512  
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

TESTIMONY OF PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO- GEISER  
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE  
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

June 24, 2020  
1:30 P.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 325

SENATE BILL NO. 2206 SD2 Proposed HD1  
RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS

Chairperson Brower and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 2206 SD2, Proposed HD1. This bill authorizes the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) to issue temporary revocable permits to be used for temporary emergency sheltering and facilities for houseless persons on state lands. The Department offers comments on this measure.

The Department supports the intent of this measure, however, has concerns regarding possible unintended adverse impacts. Revocable permits issued pursuant to this measure by the BLNR on agricultural lands managed by the Department of Agriculture may compromise long term food sustainability goals without prior input from the Department of Agriculture. The Department requests clarification with respect to BLNR' ability to issue revocable permits for properties managed by the Department of Agriculture under this measure as written. We offer the following amendment, to avoid possible negative impacts on food sustainability by giving the Department an opportunity to provide relevant input, such as the appropriate locations, if any, of temporary shelters for houseless individuals, regarding the land it manages:



SECTION 2. (a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the board of land and natural resources may issue month to month revocable permits to be used for the temporary emergency sheltering of and facilities for homeless persons on state lands under conditions and rent which will serve the best interest of the State, provided that:

(1) any revocable permit issued pursuant to this Act shall be exempt from chapter 171 Hawaii Revised Statutes;

(2) a revocable permit may only be issued pursuant to this section if the person issued the revocable permit has a written agreement or partnership with the State or any political subdivision thereof.

(3) a revocable permit may not be issued for lands under the control or management of the department of agriculture with the prior agreement of the department of agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



Tuesday, June 24, 2020

Senate Bill 2206 SD 2

**PROPOSED HD1**

Testifying in Support

Aloha Chair Brower, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and Members of the Committee on Housing,

The Democratic Party of Hawai'i (The Party) stands in **support of the Proposed SB2206 SD2 HD1** Relating to Homelessness. This measure authorizes the issuance of general obligation bonds and appropriates funds for capital improvement projects consistent with the purposes of the Rental Housing Revolving Fund. The Rental Housing Revolving Fund will help in alleviating homelessness by building housing at affordable levels.

In 2019, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's 2019 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress found that 44.9 in every 10,000 people in Hawai'i were experiencing homelessness. The national average was 17 people per 10,000.

Recent studies have determined California and Hawai'i as having the highest rates of homelessness among all individuals (excluding families with children) with 68 and 63 of every 10,000 individuals experiencing homelessness. These rates are 2.5 times the national average rate of 24 per 10,000 individuals. Of Hawai'i's homeless individuals, 75% are unsheltered. Of 1,992 homeless families, 454 were unsheltered, or nearly 23%. Of 222 homeless youth, 149 were unsheltered, or 67%. Hawai'i has one of the highest rates of veteran homelessness in the nation with 39 per 10,000 people, 58% of whom are unsheltered. 36% of Hawai'i's homeless population is chronically homeless, meaning individuals with disabilities who have been homeless for a year or more, or have experienced 12 or more months of homelessness over the last three years. More than 85% of chronically homeless people in Hawai'i are unsheltered. Finally, Hawai'i's chronically homeless population has more than doubled since 2007.

Per Oahu's 2019 point-in-time count, most of Hawai'i's homeless population lives on Oahu: more than 4,400 people. More than half of these people are unsheltered, living on sidewalks, in parks and in other public places not meant for human habitation.

Oahu has purportedly made great strides in reducing family and veteran homelessness: the number of homeless families decreased by 42% from 2015 to 2019, and veteran



homelessness declined 18% in that time. The focus is now on the unsheltered population and the master plan includes funding for the rental housing revolving fund.

The federal guidelines from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development published in 2019, found that the area median income for a family of four in Honolulu was \$99,000; \$96,400 was determined to be low-income; \$60,250 was considered as very low-income; and \$26,150 was determined as extremely low-income in Honolulu. For a single person, the 2019 federal guidelines indicate that a salary of \$67,500 or less in Honolulu was considered low-income. This means that a family of four at 140 percent area median income could earn up to \$138,600 and still qualify for affordable housing.

In 2018, the legislature made unprecedented levels of investment in low-income and homelessness solutions in appropriating \$200,000,000 for the rental housing revolving fund, among others. However, funding for this purpose needs to be steady, predictable, and long-term as provided in this measure.

For these reasons, we urge you to vote favorably on this bill.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,



Josh Frost  
Co-Chair, Legislation Committee  
Democratic Party of Hawai'i



Zahava Zaidoff  
Co-Chair, Legislation Committee  
Democratic Party of Hawai'i

<https://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/2019/05/23/considered-low-income-one-person-honolulu-according-hud/>

<https://www.civilbeat.org/2020/01/Hawai'i-is-no-longer-no-1-for-homelessness-new-york-is-worse/>

<https://www.civilbeat.org/2018/04/legislators-agree-to-spend-millions-more-on-affordable-rentals/>

<https://www.civilbeat.org/2016/01/for-the-poor-and-the-mentally-ill-help-in-two-bills/>

DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII  
HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS CAUCUS

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF  
SB 2206, S.D.2, H.D.1 PROPOSED

Hearing, Wednesday, June 24, 2020, 1:30 p.m.

Representative Tom Brower, Chair  
Representative Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair  
Members, Committee on Housing

Aloha,

The Hawaiian Affairs Caucus submits testimony in support of SB2206, SD2 Proposed HD1 that would authorize BLNR to issue temporary revocable leases for emergency homeless camps during the COVID crisis.

While these kinds of camps are not the most ideal, given the challenges posed by COVID-19, innovative, short term solutions need to be implemented to address the housing shortage. This measure would help BLNR to implement a short term solution.

Respectfully

JUANITA BROWN KAWAMOTO  
Chair

**SB-2206-SD-2**

Submitted on: 6/22/2020 7:43:39 PM

Testimony for HSG on 6/24/2020 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mike Goodman	Hawaii Kai Homeless Task Force & Myself	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, and thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB2206.

I want to focus my comments on the proposal to add a temporary campground provision to this bill. I certainly understand the fear many have of creating tent cities or safe zones, which are little more than dumping grounds for the homeless and counter productive.

I also agree we have to do what's possible now to get people off the streets. It's not only morally reprehensible to leave people exposed to the elements, suffering and dying, it's also foolish; It costs taxpayers millions more each year for unsheltered homelessness than it would if we provided them a place to live. It also diminishes the quality of life for residents and tourists.

Temporary campgrounds don't have to be dumping grounds for the homeless if we amend this provision to specify the following: (1) Hygienic facilities must be provided; (2) Where possible, Lt. Governor Green's Kauhale Villages could be used as campgrounds while they are works in progress. Once the hygienic centers are completed, residents could live temporarily in tents which would eventually be replaced with permanent low-cost Kauhale tiny homes. (3) Security must be provided. (4) Campgrounds should be in places with access to public transportation and the urban core. (5) High quality tents should be provided. (6) We need triage; Severely mentally ill and substance addicted persons may have to be placed in separate campgrounds. (6) To the extend possible, existing social networks amongst unsheltered homeless should be utilized by enablisth democratic control of campgrounds. (7) Let's be bold and comprehensive; There are roughly 3000 unsheltered homeless; We could provide every single one of them with temporary, reasonably comfortable places to live in campgrounds for a grand total of less than \$300,000, where they would be far better off than they are now. Moreover, we could do this within the next year.

Thank you.

**SB-2206-SD-2**

Submitted on: 6/23/2020 1:35:26 PM

Testimony for HSG on 6/24/2020 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Blanche McMillan	Hui Mahi'ai Aina	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Blanche McMillan. My husband and I are the founders and CEO-CEOs of Hui Mahi'ai Aina located on OluOlu street in Waimanalo. Before the Coronavirus pandemic started and the help of the Lord, I had the dream and desire to establish housing for the homeless people in Waimanalo. The pandemic made the need more urgent, so my husband and I began to implement our dream for housing homeless people in conjunction with the emergency virus condition and the support of the community.

**SB-2206-SD-2**

Submitted on: 6/23/2020 1:49:33 PM

Testimony for HSG on 6/24/2020 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
anei kennison- hiona	hui mahi'ai aina	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support everything that Hui Mahi'ai Aina has done for the homeless that came not only from its hometown of Waimanalo but from all over the island. Today, all of the people that are on this land can finally call somewhere home. And as we all know living here in Hawaii, the cost of living is only increasing, so to call a place HOME is a priceless and beautiful thing.

My name is Anei K. Hiona, i have one daughter who is 8, along with her father we all live here at Hui Mahi'ai Aina. I have had to move 12 times since my child was born! I cherish the opportunity to never be uprooted again. Everyday i wake up i know that we will always have food, shelter, family and friends around. I thank God daily for giving us auntie Blanche and her wonderful, caring family. This family is so selfless, and as for me and my family we are forever grateful to them for opening up their arms to us when we were displaced and lost. That is why i care for all of my neighbors, and want them all to have a place to call home. WE ALL work together as ONE team. We know that we cannot do this all on our own, thats why we take care of this land, and will continue to do so. Hui Mahi'ai Aina is our home until we are strong enough to stand alone on our own two feet.

**SB-2206-SD-2**

Submitted on: 6/23/2020 2:42:56 PM

Testimony for HSG on 6/24/2020 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Wayleen Anela McMillan	Hui Mahi'ai Aina	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Wayleen McMillan. I am the daughter of CEO's Willie and Blanche McMillan and the president of Hui Mahi'ai Aina board of directors. My parents dream of providing housing for homeless people in Waimanalo preceded the Coronavirus pandemic. My parents and I, in the tradition of Hawaiian culture, consider home and housing to be vitally connected to land usage. Part of the Hui Mahi'ai Aina program includes the concept of Malama Aina. Therefore, included in our housing plans are land usage plans. For example we have obtained taro plants, fruit trees seedlings, and other plant life to be grown on the premises as part of our housing program. Our residents are instructed that their housing includes a relationship with our Aina. Much of our program requires financial aid. We are therefore in the process of seeking assistance in areas of finance, agriculture, and socio-culture relationship.

**SB-2206-SD-2**

Submitted on: 6/23/2020 2:59:19 PM

Testimony for HSG on 6/24/2020 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Pamela Rundgren	Hui Mahi'ai Aina	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Pamela Rundgren, I'm a tenent at Blanche McMillans. I live in one of the pallet homes and helped to assemble and prepare the ground for stable foundation for these homes. I worked side by side for 45 days with the other future tents to prepare a safe and loving environment for the homeless. I thank God everyday for the love and compassion of the McMillan's family to reach out to help us sucure a safe home for the ones in need. No greater love than to lend a helping hand to the people to have an opportunity to build a better life side by side. Much appreciation to the community as well for all donations and support of this Ainaâ• ¤ĩ• . I will forever be grateful for my home and the love and compassion that has been given to me. For in God's eyes as well as Blanche all people matter and she has truly touched all of our lives. Thank you sincerely, Pamela Rundgren

**SB-2206-SD-2**

Submitted on: 6/23/2020 3:38:18 PM

Testimony for HSG on 6/24/2020 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jadfrey Purdy	Hui Mahi'ai Aina	Support	No

Comments:

At the time we got offered the opportunity to move off the Beach I were the first ones to move here I jump on it.so when we were on the beach we would have to move everything shut everything down to get sweat and he stuff that was left behind taken so the opportunities that we had for lunch to open up your heart or home please align everything big big blessing so I think with everything that's been going on and then her open up her heart to help everybody get what they needed and make keep them well off and keep them safe I think this project is the best thing to happen here because of all that was going on.now I have a place too call home.a door and windows and a dry place too lay down.and no creator running in my tant.so yes it is a blessing.



**SB-2206-SD-2**

Submitted on: 6/23/2020 4:01:55 PM

Testimony for HSG on 6/24/2020 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Isaiah ruiz	Hui mahiai aina	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha my name is Isaiah Ruiz who is a present resident of Hui mahiai Aina. I am 24 yrs old enjoying the new lifestyle of being sheltered under the family felt supervision of the McMillan ohana. Because of me being a people person I had no problems of being here. Working the Aina is a great way to keep busy. The conditions are very well maintained such as the relationships, the one on one tasks with each other, and the close bond that we learn when having assigned task. It is a blessing to cherish for I personally appreciate this. None more to say but I LOVE BEING HERE as well as GOD bless nty Blanche and this ohana mahalo

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My name is Constance Oki (aka Connie). I have resided at the Hui Mahiai Aina premises since the end of March, 2020 under the leadership of Blanche and Willie McMillan. I had become acquainted with Auntie Blanche in previous years when she served as a member of the Waimanalo Neighborhood Board, she performed various community service projects, and she proactively became involved with the homeless population at the Waimanalo Beach Park campsite which I have frequented for many decades. In September of 2019, at the age of 72, I lost my prior housing at my parents' home. Following the deaths of both my parents and the settling of their estate with my siblings, I was left without the means to obtain adequate housing. I was blessed with a Waimanalo ohana who accommodated me from September, 2019 through March of 2020. The increasing governmental restrictions placed upon everyone due to the coronavirus pandemic created numerous hardships for me and my ohana hosts. I heard that Blanche and Willie McMillan had opened up housing on their property and applied for residency here. I am eternally grateful to the McMillans for their accommodations for me.

My three months of residency here have not been easy but the McMillans have persistently and diligently assisted me and each of the other residents in adjusting to the Hui Mahiai Aina ideology and to each other.

My initial purpose in arriving here was to explore housing potentials for me and my dog. I learned within the first few days that this was not the purpose for Hui Mahiai Aina. One of the main stated goals of the McMillans was the establishment of a loving community amongst all residents and teamwork in addressing group needs such as meal preparations, yardwork, communal toilet and bathing facilities and other issues. Another goal which became evident to me was our collective mindset toward the land space and usage, incorporating the Hawaiian concept of malama aina. A number of residents, including myself, have known each other for decades in the Waimanalo community and others have no prior experience with each other. Three months is not very long. Residents and the McMillans have worked very hard to deal with internal individual obstacles and group interactions. During this brief time period, my personal admiration, respect and love for the McMillans and the Hui Mahiai Aina project has grown daily. It is with much gratitude that I submit testimony in support of this project and the McMillans.

**SB-2206-SD-2**

Submitted on: 6/23/2020 2:46:18 PM

Testimony for HSG on 6/24/2020 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Klaus Radtke	Alohahawaiionipaa.org 501 C-3 public charity	Support	No

Comments:

S.B. NO. 2206 HD 1

We strongly support SB 2206 that will allow the Board of Land and Natural Resources to issue revocable month to month permits for state lands to be used for emergency homeless camps.

Such an emergency homeless camp is being developed on leased DLNR land in Waimanalo (Hui Mahi`ai Aina) by lessees Blanche and Willy McMillan with strong community support and has taken on additional urgency with the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Please note that Hui Mahi`ai Aina has been so far developed with strong community support but without the assistance of any state or federal funding.

Alohahawaiionipaa.org and its supporters have also been providing their expertise as well as financial assistance to make the Waimanalo Homeless Village dream a reality and will continue to do so.

Please call upon us anytime for further information or support on this this and similar projects.

Klaus W-H Radtke  
Environmental Scientist  
President alohahawaiionipaa.org

**SB-2206-SD-2**

Submitted on: 6/23/2020 3:02:47 PM

Testimony for HSG on 6/24/2020 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mona Bernardino	YouthBuild Waimanalo	Support	No

Comments:

YouthBuild Waimanalo strongly supports SB 2206, SD 2. We have seen first hand how homeless residents in Waimanalo have improved their lives by moving temporarily to a homeless kauhale on State land close to the mountain. With COVID-19 and the severe economic crisis, it is helpful to have emergency homeless camps to provide temporary shelter.

This homeless community in Waimanalo has elderly kupuna and little children. Some of the kupuna can barely walk or move about. By being in a safe environment such as an emergency homeless camp with restrooms and a kitchen, they can function better and take care of themselves. With temporary shelters instead of tents, they can stand up and down better and be more mobile. This is important to their overall health and to keeping their immune system strong.

Our at-risk youth in YouthBuild Waimanalo helped to build temporary, "tiny house" shelters for these families and elderly to live in. This is a much safer and cleaner environment for them than living in tents on the beach.

Thank you for consideration of this bill to provide a safety net for the folks who are most vulnerable to COVID-19 and other health issues.

**SB-2206-SD-2**

Submitted on: 6/23/2020 2:32:53 PM

Testimony for HSG on 6/24/2020 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Casey Takayama	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I voluntarily support Hui Mahi'ai Aina, a Federal non-profit organization that helps houseless in Waimanalo with housing, food, and the other living means. BJ and Pamela, who were at the homeless camp shared the story. BJ used to be a bus driver. He had the job until COVID-19 and after that lost the job. Most of them in the village lived in a tent before but had jobs. Pamela also had a job but lost at COVID-19. Hui Mahi'ai Aina provided the prefabricated housing units for free during strict pandemic coding and now at \$100/mo for utility. Hui Mahi'ai Aina relies totally donations either in-kind or cash. The organization is waiting their land use permit to be granted as soon as possible as the camp residents are already at the site being helped. Blanche McMillan, the CEO of Hui Mahi'ai Aina plans to increase more housing units to give shelters for more houseless within a month or two, before the storm season.

**SB-2206-SD-2**

Submitted on: 6/23/2020 3:08:50 PM

Testimony for HSG on 6/24/2020 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rayne Kauhi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: