



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

February 12, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services

The Honorable Norman Sakamoto, Chair
Senate Committee on Education and Housing

FROM: Lillian B. Koller, Director

SUBJECT: **S. B. 910 - RELATING TO THE TRANSFER OF HOMELESS
PROGRAMS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
SERVICES**
Hearing: Thursday, February 12, 2009, 1:15 p.m.
Conference Room 016, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purpose of this bill is to relocate the State Homeless programs from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) to the Benefit, Employment, and Support Services Division (BESSD) of the Department of Human Services (DHS) to improve the coordination of homeless programs and services for clients of DHS.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports this Administration-sponsored bill. The Benefit, Employment and Support Services Division (BESSD) is the appropriate section within DHS to effectively coordinate homeless services since it administers programs relating to job training, child care, and financial assistance. These programs are a necessary accompaniment to the case management services that are a primary function of emergency and transitional shelters for homeless individuals and families.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this bill.

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



CHAD K. TANIGUCHI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY
1002 NORTH SCHOOL STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 17907
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

Statement of
Chad K. Taniguchi
Hawaii Public Housing Authority
Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND HOUSING

February 12, 2009 1:15 P.M.
Room 016, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of
S.B. 910

**RELATING TO THE TRANSFER OF HOMELESS PROGRAMS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT
OF HUMAN SERVICES**

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) supports S.B. 910, the Administration bill which would transfer Homeless Services from HPHA to the Benefit, Employment, and Support Services Division (BSSD) within the Department of Human Services (DHS).

Homeless Services and BESSD serve many of the same clients, and this measure would improve the ability to coordinate services and avoid duplication of effort, thereby improving client outcomes and making the most effective use of funding. Clients would not have two agencies to deal with, enhancing customer service.

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



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TESTIMONY
OF
AARON S. FUJIOKA
ADMINISTRATOR
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEES
ON
HUMAN SERVICES
AND
EDUCATION AND HOUSING

February 12, 2009

1:15 pm

SB 910

RELATING TO THE TRANSFER OF HOMELESS PROGRAMS WITHIN THE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES.

Chair Chun Oakland, Chair Sakamoto, Vice-Chair Ihara, Vice-Chair Kidani, and committee members, thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 910. This bill relocates the state homeless programs from the department of human services' Hawaii Public Housing Authority to the Benefit, Employment, and Support Services Division.

The State Procurement Office (SPO) testimony is limited to SECTION 2 page 7, which allows an exemption from HRS Chapter 103F for the selection of provider agencies to administer programs for the homeless. HRS Chapter 103F provides a health and human services competitive procurement process which applies to all contracts made by state agencies for the benefit of Hawaii's residents.

SB 910
February 12, 2009
1:15 pm
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As a public entity, the state must maintain an open, fair and equitable treatment of all providers who deal with the state's procurement system, maximize the purchasing value of public funds, and foster broad-based competition within the free enterprise system. Statutorily exempting an agency from the requirements of HRS Chapter 103F is not in the best interest of government, the health and human services provider community, and the general public. The competitive procurement processes are to insure that all potential providers are afforded the opportunity to compete for the required services through established time-tested, fair, and reliable set of rules and processes for award of contracts. To the extent agencies may need specific items to be exempt, the current statutes provide an exemption process.

There is no compelling reason to statutorily exempt the homeless programs from the requirements of HRS Chapter 103F since the statutes already provides independence and flexibility in the procurement process.

The SPO recommends amending page 7, lines 11 and 12, for your consideration, as follows:

“...this part, shall not be subject to chapters 42F, 102, and 103,~~and 103F.~~”

Thank you



CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAII

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 910: RELATING TO THE TRANSFER OF HOMELESS PROGRAMS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair, Human Services
Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair, Education and Housing
And Members

FROM: Betty Lou Larson, Housing Programs Director, Catholic Charities Hawaii

HEARING: **Thursday, February 12, 2009; 1:15 pm; CR 016**

Chair Chun Oakland, Chair Sakamoto, and members of the Committees on Human Services and Education and Housing:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 910, which would transfer the Homeless Programs from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) to the Benefit, Employment, and Support Services Division within the Department of Human Services. I am Betty Lou Larson, the Housing Programs Director at Catholic Charities Hawaii. We are members of Partners in Care. Catholic Charities Hawaii operates two transitional housing programs for homeless families under the Homeless Programs Branch—Ma'ili Land in Waianae, and Kawaihae on the Big Island.

We recommend that the Homeless Programs be transferred from HPHA to the Benefit, Employment, and Support Services Division (BESS) as this would provide more streamlining and efficiency in procurement and contracting. We feel that placing Homeless Programs directly under BESS would be the best fit since BESS already has the infrastructure to support more efficient and timely contracting and will be able to provide other support as needed. No additional costs would be needed to create new infrastructure, since the transfer would be to an existing DHS department. Furthermore, BESS is a more appropriate fit for the homeless programs since they deal with similar funding sources and similar clients.

We urge you to consider this transfer directly to BESS, since it would provide more streamlining and efficiency in procurement and contracting. These two processes have been a challenge this year. HPHA has a big job to focus upon public housing. Transferring the Homeless Programs would enhance both programs.

We urge you to support SB 910 which would provide the most appropriate transfer for the Homeless Programs to ensure that their services can be enhanced but at no additional cost in these tough economic times.





Waianae Community Outreach

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Ph: (808) 696-5667 Fax: (808) 696-1869*

**HOPE for a New Beginning Shelter
(Helping Our People Excel)**

*Bldg 50 Belleau Woods, Kapolei, HI 96707
Ph: (808) 682-4673 Fax: (808) 682-4670*

Partnerships in Building Community

Mission

Provide Comprehensive services with Aloha to individuals & families in need so they can become Self-Sufficient

Vision

Healthy Self-Sufficient Resilient Individuals & Families

Values

- U**nderstanding
- R**espect
- R**esponsibility
- I**ntegrity
- C**ompassion
- H**onesty

"I put my hand in your hand, what I cannot do alone, we will do together"

Date: February 9, 2009

To: Sen. S. Chun-Oakland, Chair Human Services
Sen. L. Ihara Jr., Vice Chair Human Services
Sen. N. Sakamoto, Chair Education and Housing
Sen. M. Kidani, Vice Chair Education and Housing

Hearing: February 12, 2009 Thursday 1:15pm Conference Rm. 016

Measure: SB 910: THE TRANSFER OF HOMELESS PROGRAMS WITHIN DHS

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs and committee members:

My name is Kanani Kaaiawahia Bulawan the board of directors' advisor for Waianae Community Outreach. I would like to request your **FULL SUPPORT** to this measure. **IT MAKES SENSE, IS COST EFFECTIVE AND MAKES DELIEVERY OF SERVICE MORE EFFICIENT.**

During this time of economic challenges, we are called to reevaluate the effectiveness of running our government and determining what fits and what doesn't. This is the time for this bill. Having the homeless programs moved to the benefits section of DHS makes the perfect fit. It was meant to be and now is the time for it to be. Lets do the RIGHT thing in running our government and refrain from the popular "same old same old" way of operating. This will save a tremendous amount of time and money in the long run. **AND, MAKE SERVING THE PEOPLE THE RIGHT THING TO DO!**

Mahalo for your time and ask again for your FULL SUPPORT to this bill. Should you have any questions or need additional information feel free to call me at 426-4647, 682-4673 or 783-9302.

Mahalo,
Kanani Kaaiawahia Bulawan

Kanani Kaaiawahia Bulawan

Date: February 9, 2009

To: Sen. S. Chun-Oakland, Chair Human Services
Sen. L. Ihara Jr., Vice Chair Human Services
Sen. N. Sakamoto, Chair Education and Housing
Sen. M. Kidani, Vice Chair Education and Housing

Hearing: February 12, 2009 Thursday 1:15pm Conference Rm. 016

Measure: SB 910: THE TRANSFER OF HOMELESS PROGRAMS WITHIN DHS

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs and committee members:

I would like to request your **FULL SUPPORT** to this measure. **IT MAKES SENSE, IS COST EFFECTIVE AND MAKES DELIEVERY OF SERVICE MORE EFFICIENT.**

The current condition conflicts with the functions between the homeless programs and public housing. You have one function that provides prevention and intervention services for the unsheltered, sheltered and at risk individuals and families. The other function provides public low-cost housing that does not consider elements that may cause homelessness but just offers "low-cost" housing based on an income scale.

Moving the homeless programs to the benefits section of DHS makes perfect sense and fit. The homeless programs manage the shelter operations and delivery of services for the "homeless" population. This most times requires the assistance and support of the benefits section in terms of assuring not only temporary housing is secured but the services necessary to address barriers to homelessness is achieved.

Again please support this bill as it does make all the sense in the world, it makes for cost effectiveness as services needed and used are across the table and makes the delivery of necessary services in serving the homeless population more efficient. Should you have any questions or need more information feel free to call me at 426-4647 or 682-4673 or 783-9302.

Mahalo,

Kanani Kaaiawahia Bulawan