

A JOINT LEGISLATIVE EFFORT

Fax to: House Sgt-At Arms @ 586-6501
Regarding: House FIN Hearing
Hearing on: February 27, 2007 @ 5:00 p.m.
Copies Necessary: 45 copies

BOARD MEMBERS:

HAWAII FAMILY FORUM

Francis Oda
President

Austin Imamura
Vice-President

Gill Berger
Secretary

Brogan, Mary Lou
D'Olier, H. Mitchell
Pace, Dr. Nancy
Papandrew, Tom
Paty, William
Pflueger, Nancy
Tsujimura, R. Brian
Young, Sandra

HAWAII CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

Most Reverend Clarence Silva
Bishop of Honolulu

Alexander, Very Rev. Marc
Andrade, Eva
Chung, Sr. Earnest
Coleman, David
Correa, Jerry
Downes, Patrick
Himenes, Dr. Carmen
Ignacio, Carol
Larson, Betty Lou
Rauckhorst, Jerome

Date: February 26, 2007

To: **House Committee on Finance**
Rep. Marcus Oshiro, Chair
Rep. Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair

From: Kelly M. Rosati, JD
Executive Director, Hawaii Family Forum
Lobbyist, Hawaii Catholic Conference

Re: **Comments on HB 997 Relating to Kukui Gardens**

Honorable Chair and members of the House Committee on Finance, I am Kelly Rosati, **representing both the Hawaii Family Forum and the Roman Catholic Church in the State of Hawaii.**

Hawaii Family Forum is a non-profit, pro-family education organization committed to preserving and strengthening families in Hawaii. The Hawaii Catholic Conference is the public policy voice for the Roman Catholic Church in Hawaii, under the leadership of Bishop Larry Silva, represents over 230,000 Catholics in Hawaii.

We are pleased by the announcement of the settlement between the tenants of Kukui Gardens and Carmel Properties.

We support legislative measures to effectuate the terms of the agreement, which will allow the neediest residents of Kukui Gardens to remain in their homes. Passage of appropriate legislation will be in concert with the legislative action taken in 2006 expressing the will of both chambers to protect the interests of the neediest Kukui Gardens residents.

We also support appropriate legislative safeguards to ensure that the significant state investment of public funds will yield affordable housing units in perpetuity.

Mahalo for your prioritization of Hawaii's affordable housing and homeless crisis.