

Testimony for LAB 2/9/2010 9:30:00 AM HB7 (2<sup>nd</sup> Revision)

Conference room: 309  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: Cliff Fukuda  
Organization: Individual  
Address: PO Box 1363 Kaneohe, Hawaii  
Phone: 5427886  
E-mail: mraloha@clearwire.net  
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LATE

Good Morning Chairman Rhoad and members of the Labor Committee,

My name is Cliff Fukuda, I am a teacher at Aiea High School, I took the day off from Social Studies Civics class to be here today to speaking in favor of the VEBA Health Plan. I am here asking for the future, for the young teachers in the future, for the teachers you recruit from New York, the local teachers return from Oregon and Washington. I am asking you to take care of future dedicated teachers who will work for less than something a fair wage. In a couple of year, I personally will be retired and will have my health plan from my 20 years of military service. My motivation is only to the future teachers, like my student, Angie Catorie, an elementary teacher, who just beginning her career, I am speak here for the future Hawaii teachers. We need a decent health care. We need a program to take care of our future teachers.

I understand your position with the VEBA Health Plan, but if you would allow it to be placed for the full House vote, we would sincerely appreciate it.

Currently I am losing \$532.15 from each of my pay checks from the furloughs and there is talk about taking my planning days away, now so I can plan my lessons on my holidays and church Sundays?

Now, the legislature is planning to take away my health plan, and possibly making me pay more in July. Please give every consideration for VEBA health care for teachers. Let me leave you with one figure, \$3,518,760.00 returned to the State from VEBA, and \$3,145,309.00 saving from the cost of state charges to the health plan.

Thank you for listen to one teacher.