

The House of Representatives STATE OF HAWAII

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January 4, 2008

Press Release

Republicans Demand Change in Grants-In-Aid Process

We are demanding reform of the Grants-In-Aid (GIA) process to achieve effectiveness with built in accountability measures. The House of Representatives Republicans are currently offering a resolution and asking for 51 signatures to promote a more open procedure for the Grants-in-Aide process.

We are concerned with the lack of formal criteria and it is vital that the public is able to participate in a process that has independent reviews, checks and balances with formal guidelines. We demand change and offer our support in an effort to rise above a flawed process. Your input is an important part of achieving a transparent process.

Representative Colleen Meyer requested an investigation by the Speaker of the House, Calvin Say, of Representative Michael Magaoay's position as the Grants-in-Aid sub committee chair in relation to his campaign fundraising. "It is never good when the public is left with a "pay for play" taste in their mouths," said Representative Colleen Meyer. Representative Thielen requested that Representative Magaoay return campaign funds that were raised from non-profit connections.

The three Honolulu Advertiser articles that have prompted the House of Representatives Republican reply are:

Rob Prerez Articles of December 23rd, 24th and 25th, 2007. Hawaii nonprofit grant funding a mystery http://www.honoluluadvertiser.com/app... Hawaii House grants job a lucrative post http://www.honoluluadvertiser.com/app... Hawaii nonprofit funding unusual http://www.honoluluadvertiser.com/app...

You may see a press clip on YouTube at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D5zDrvbjodg