

## **EDB Committee**

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**From:** LL Tanner <adicma@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 11, 2020 12:27 PM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Cc:** Keani N. Rawlins; Kelly King  
**Subject:** CARES Act RESPONSIBLE SPENDING Testimony

Aloha Mayor, Council Members, and Ms. King, our Representative,

We are writing to voice our concern that Maui's CARES Act \$ monies take into account the urgent safety measures needed for our PUBLIC EDUCATION SCHOOLS, and our PUBLIC HEALTH PROVIDERS. The healthcare workers, teachers, staff and infrastructure, count on your support when designating funds for dispersal. From visits and discussions with parents, students and colleagues, our public health agencies and Maui's schools are crumbling under the pressures of current events, the global pandemic, and deserve these life-saving funds.

I am a retired Maui educator, highly qualified teacher, published healthcare author, Advocate for Aloha to Voters & ShineYourLight.us, and member, Maui Coalition For Drug Free Youth. My husband is the Rev. Dennis Barger, also a Coalition member and Secretary Registrar of the Tri Isle Assoc., United Church of Christ/HI.

We must prioritize our children's education and safety, developing their ability to think critically, as we adults struggle with containment policies and finances. Please help public schools grow in a positive direction, following health recommendations and continuing students' learning with health education, historical facts, biographies and participation in project based service learning. PLEASE IMPROVE OUR LIVES—SAVE OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS and IMPROVE PUBLIC HEALTH STREAMS with CARES Act. The results of today's funding decisions with significant CARES Act monies will make public education and public healthcare more effective and safe for all, and will yield far reaching benefits now, and to our future as a Community, with caring, insightful community Leadership. We will look forward to hearing your CARES act choices for helping the lives of Maui's citizens, children and our environment.

Very truly yours,  
Mahalo,  
Laurie Tanner and Rev. Dennis Barger