

JUL 24 2009



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

July 22, 2009

The Honorable J. Kalani English
Senator, 6th District
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 205
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator English:

Thank you for your letter of July 9, 2009, requesting an exemption of the Hansen's Disease Branch within the Department of Health from taking any budgetary cuts. While we appreciate your position of protecting the patients who reside at Kalaupapa, the severe budget crisis requires that all State programs be scrutinized to determine where budgetary savings may be realized. Please be assured that we will not make cuts that would jeopardize the health and safety of the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linda Lingle".

LINDA LINGLE