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MEMORANDUM

Date: March 31, 2010
To: Clayton Wong, Fiscal Administrator
From: Councilmember Ann Kobayashi *AK*
Subject: National Association of Counties (NACo) 2010 Legislative Conference

I was very fortunate to be able to attend the National Association of Counties (NACo) 2010 Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. Throughout the conference, I was able to attend General Sessions and Educational Session Blocks which featured exceptional speakers like *Time* Magazine columnist Joe Klein and Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi.

As the only national organization that represents county governments in the United States, NACo provides essential services to the nation's 3,068 counties, advances issues with a unified voice before the federal government, improves the public's understanding of county government, assists counties in finding and sharing innovative solutions through education and research, and provides value-added services to save counties and taxpayers money.

Attached are briefings and findings of my travel to Washington, D.C. to attend the 2010 NACo Legislative Conference.

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Highlights from General Sessions

At one General Session, Time Magazine columnist Joe Klein offered his diagnosis of what ails Washington in the current era of Congressional gridlock and “hyper-partisanship.” Handicapping the odds of Republicans picking up seats in midterm elections, he said of Washington, “No matter what happens in this election, the city will still be broken.”

Klein looked at government dysfunction through the prism of the health care reform debate, in which each side has dug in its heels. He discussed why you would want to reform health care when 80 percent of Americans are happy with what they have. He cited two arguments in favor — one economic and one moral. The United States of America needs to remain competitive with countries that guarantee or subsidize health care. The “short-term moral problem” is that at least 30 million Americans have no health care, and a large percentage of Americans fear that they will lose what they already have.

At another General Session, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) focused on her and the Obama administration’s priorities, particularly jobs and “health insurance reform.” Highlighting jobs-specific legislation, she said the Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment (HIRE) Act will provide \$15 billion for infrastructure investments in local communities. She also said that the health reform bill is also a jobs bill that would create “4 million jobs in its life” and “about 400,000 jobs very soon.”

Furthermore, the health reform bill Congress sends to the president “will ensure affordability for the middle class, accountability for the insurance companies, and access for millions more Americans, tens of millions.”

In closing, she called on county leaders to lend their support. “The challenges that we all face are too great to face them alone. We need to form the partnerships, strengthen partnerships at every level of government.”

Highlights from Educational Session Blocks

During an Educational Session Block, Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources counsel Deborah Estes, National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners Legislative Director Chris Mele, and Alliance to Save Energy Director Brad Penney provided information regarding the energy reserves and alternative solutions for generating energy in our communities.

The discussion led to what Congress is planning to do in the energy arena and the effect this will have on the country. They all shared innovative solutions in harnessing renewable energy sources, and discussed possible government incentives that could help shift our dependency on fossil fuels.

City Council
City and County of Honolulu

CLAIM FOR TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT

Date: March 22, 2010

Traveler: Ann Kobayashi

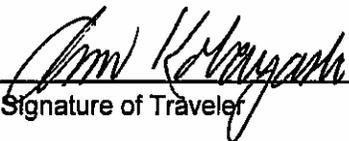
Event: 2010 NACo Legislative Conference & Federal Transit Administration

Location: Washington, D.C.

Dates: From March 6, 2010 To March 10, 2010

Description	Amount	Notes
1. Registration Fee	\$465.00	Charge statement attached
2. Airfare	\$770.14	DR: 3/7/10 5:05 pm RT: 3/11/10 3:15 pm
3. Hotel	\$704.19	
4. Meals	\$53.94	Receipts attached
5. Ground Transportation	\$44.00	Receipts attached
6. Tips		
7. Other		
Other		
Other		
8. Adjustment		
		* \$699.73 charged to Dist. 5 contingency
		* \$1337.54 charged to transit account
TOTAL REIMBURSEMENT	* \$2,037.27	

This is to certify that the above data, based upon receipts submitted to Council Administrative Support Services via a CCLTRVL02 form, is accurate. Further, I am claiming reimbursement for expenses associated with a trip in which City business was conducted and personal funds were used to advance payment:



Signature of Traveler

MAR 22 2010

Date