

ESCAPE TODAY WITH EZPAY  
in The Honolulu Advertiser's

CLASSIFIEDS | JOBS | HOMES | CARS | MARKETPLACE | SHOP

HOME | LOCAL NEWS | SPORTS | ISLAND LIFE | ENTERTAINMENT | BUSINESS | TECHNOLOGY | OPINION | HELP PAGE

# Local News

HonoluluAdvertiser.com  
July 31, 2003



**QUICK FIND**

- Autos
- Newspaper Ads
- FREE COUPONS
- Personals

- Local News
- Obituaries
- Weather
- Traffic Hotspots
- Town Hall
- Hali'a Hawai'i
- Military News
- Discussion Boards
- Live Chats

Get Home Delivery  
Subscribe NOW!

keywords

- The Site
- The Web
- Classifieds

Back Issues

- Featured News
- Nation/World News
- Movie Showtimes
- TGIF Calendar
- Photo Gallery
- Special Projects
- Columnists

- Customer Service
- Help Page
- Contact Us
- E-mail News Alerts
- Subscriber Services
- Reader Services
- Advertising Services
- Make Us Your Start Page

Printable version | E-mail this story

Posted on: Tuesday, July 29, 2003

## Food stamp 'accuracy' recognized

By [Gordon Pang](#)  
Advertiser Staff Writer

The state is getting a \$1,476,000 shot in the arm after winning high marks in "accuracy" by the federal government for fair distribution of food stamps.

Eric Bost, undersecretary for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, presented the "bonus" check to Gov. Linda Lingle and Human Services Director Lillian Koller yesterday at Lingle's office.

Hawaii's error rate dropped to 5.03 percent in fiscal 2002 from 6.53 percent the previous year. The percentage is the ninth best in the country. The average national error rate was 8.26 percent. Bost said Hawaii is one of only 13 to receive the additional award this year.

The state's food stamp program served an average of 100,000 people who received an estimated \$12.5 million each month during 2002.

Koller noted that the state had won a number of bonus awards in the past, even having the lowest error rate in the nation from 1990 to 1993, but needed to undergo corrective action from 1999 to 2001 when the error rating began to rise. Accuracy is measured by reviewing eligibility of those receiving assistance to see if they were given too much or too little. The corrective action involved improving case management skills, more supervisory reviews and providing workers greater focus, Koller said.

Lingle noted that California had a 17 percent error rate and is being forced to pay back over \$150 million.

She praised human services workers who deal with the program on a daily basis. "I can see where it might be a little easy to err and say, 'Well, you don't exactly qualify but, you know, leave something out,'" the governor said.



online specials  
GOODYEAR



UNBEATABLE TRAVEL DEALS TO HAWAII!





MINI SITE MAP

- LOCAL NEWS** : [Obituaries](#) | [Weather](#) | [Traffic Hotspots](#) | [Town Hall](#) | [Military News](#) | [Discussion Boards](#) | [Live Chat](#) | [Columnists](#)
- SPORTS** : [Surf Report](#) | [UH Sports](#) | [High School Sports](#) | [Recreation](#) | [Sports Calendar](#) | [On the Air](#) | [Golf Report](#) | [National Sports](#)
- ISLAND LIFE** : [About Men/Women](#) | [Taste/Recipes](#) | [Book Club](#) | [Faith Calendar](#) | [Health/Fitness](#) | [Comics](#) | [TGIF Calendar](#) | [Tu Notes](#)
- ENTERTAINMENT** : [TGIF Calendar](#) | [4-Week Guide](#) | [Movie Showtimes](#) | [Dining](#) | [Visitors](#) | [National Arts & Leisure](#)
- BUSINESS** : [Hawai'i Stocks](#) | [Hawai'i Mutual Funds](#) | [Hawai'i Mortgage Rates](#) | [Island Bank Rates](#) | [Stock Quotes](#) | [Moneywire](#) | [Coming Events](#) | [Trade Winds](#) | [Local Resources](#)
- TECHNOLOGY** : [Click!](#) | [New Products](#) | [Help & Advice](#) | [Byte Marks](#) | [National Tech News](#)
- OPINION** : [Letters to the Editor](#) | [Dick Adair's Cartoons](#) | [Submit a Letter](#) | [Submit a Commentary](#)
- HELP PAGE** : [Contact Us](#) | [Back Issues](#) | [Newspaper Subscriptions](#) | [How to Advertise](#) | [Frequently Asked Questions](#) | [About Us](#) | [Site Map](#) | [Terms of Service](#) | [Corrections](#)
- CLASSIFIEDS** : [Classified Ads](#) | [Cars](#) | [Homes](#) | [Jobs](#) | [Marketplace](#) | [Business Directory](#) | [Restaurant Guide](#) | [Coupons](#) | [Place an](#) | [Contact Advertising](#)