

**HB2000**

**HD2**

**LATE**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2010 10:00 PM  
**To:** JGO Testimony  
**Cc:** queena\_yuen@notes.k12.hi.us  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2000 on 3/17/2010 9:30:00 AM

**LATE**

Testimony for JGO 3/17/2010 9:30:00 AM HB2000

Conference room: 016  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Queena Yuen  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [queena\\_yuen@notes.k12.hi.us](mailto:queena_yuen@notes.k12.hi.us)  
Submitted on: 3/16/2010

Comments:

Dear Senator Taniguchi:

I am writing in support of HB2000 HD2. I urge the State to preserve the Judiciary's budget, which includes funding for the Judiciary History Center.

I am a 5th grade teacher, and annually takes my students to the Hawaii Judiciary Center to learn about the judicial process. Students experience a mock trial in a courtroom setting. Something that I wouldn't be able to do in the classroom. The free tour the Hawaii Judiciary Center offers to schools help students learn about democracy, one of the standards of grade 5. Please continue to support this program.

Thank you very much for considering my testimony in support of HB2000 HD2.

Sincerely,  
Queena Yuen

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2010 9:35 PM  
**To:** JGO Testimony  
**Cc:** msdelmundo@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2000 on 3/17/2010 9:30:00 AM

**LATE**

Testimony for JGO 3/17/2010 9:30:00 AM HB2000

Conference room: 016  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Lailanie Del Mundo  
Organization: Mililani High School  
Address: 95-1200 Meheula Parkway Mililani, HI 96789  
Phone: 627-7747 x2411  
E-mail: [msdelmundo@hotmail.com](mailto:msdelmundo@hotmail.com)  
Submitted on: 3/16/2010

**Comments:**

This program has been valuable in the education of both teachers and students in regards to civic education.

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2010 7:47 PM  
**To:** JGO Testimony  
**Cc:** arndoris@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2000 on 3/17/2010 9:30:00 AM

**LATE**

Testimony for JGO 3/17/2010 9:30:00 AM HB2000

Conference room: 016  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Doris H. Nye  
Organization: Individual  
Address: 73-4367A Huihila St. Kailua Kona, Hawaii  
Phone: 808-325-1789  
E-mail: [arndoris@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:arndoris@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 3/16/2010

**Comments:**

Chairman of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government operations.

Dear Mr. Brian Taniguchi.

Please prevent further cuts to the Judiciary's budget. I am terribly concerned that any cuts will severely curtail or eliminate the Judiciary History Center.

The Judiciary History center gave me the opportunity on several occasions to share my experiences of living in Hawaii during WWII under Martial Law and describing my traumatic experiences of the pick-up of my mother, father and older sister, old time Kamaina U.S. citizens of German descent. My little sister nine years old and I eleven were left as abandoned children. My older sister was interned for 4 months, my Mom for 16 months and Dad for 18 months. First, they were interned at the Immigration Station then Sand Island and finally at Honouliuli. At those times, when I spoke at the Judiciary History Center there was also on display artifacts of the 2nd WW in Hawaii. My parents and older sister were among 130 German long time legal aliens and Kamaina US citizens who were interned along with Italians US citizens and aliens. The Judiciary Historical Center is keeping these years and the injustices that happened, alive. A Nation that forgets its past actions are apt to repeat them again. This cannot be allowed to happen.

Thank you very much, for considering my testimony and support of HB 2000 HD2 Sincerely, Doris Nye

**LATE**

To: Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations:

I am writing this testimony in support of continued funding for Girls Court, as well as all problem solving courts.

The program is a much needed gender specific program for girls in Hawaii and is one of the first in the nation. The program works to strengthen the pro-social bonds of the girls, increase their self-esteem and self-efficacy, and address other gender-specific problems that are often uniquely correlated with girls' and later women's' entrée into the criminal justice system. The program has a consistent history of demonstrated success. The most recent evaluation results show that girls who complete Girls Court realize the following: 94% reduction in runaways (which are often indicative of other serious underlying problems); 84% reduction in law violations; 79% reduction in shelter admissions; and a 66% reduction in detention home admissions.

These numbers suggest that the program is worthwhile not only terms of gender-specific and gender-relevant services for girls in the juvenile system, but also for public safety. I strongly urge your continued support for this program. Indeed, Girls Court was recently named a best practice in the deinstitutionalization of status offenders by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention – a very important distinction for this Hawaii-based program.

It certainly does not go unnoticed that these are trying economic times. As such, it is important to look at some findings that do serve to support problem-solving courts and related initiatives<sup>1</sup>. Research on teen courts, for example, demonstrate an average reduction in crime of 14% with a corresponding \$11,401 savings in benefits to crime victims, \$5,507 benefits to taxpayers and a long term \$15,971 in overall benefits. Family-based therapy programs, which is part of the Girls Court Hawaii model, demonstrate an average reduction in crime of 13.3% and \$26,047 in benefits to crime victims and an overall \$12,254 in benefits to taxpayers.

The program is worthwhile not only terms of gender-specific and gender-relevant services for girls in the juvenile system, but also for public safety and long term savings. I strongly urge your continued support for this very important problem solving court.

Sincerely,

Janet T. Davidson, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor, Criminology & Criminal Justice  
Chaminade University of Honolulu

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<sup>1</sup> Drake, E.K., S. Aos, and M.G. Miller. (2009). "Evidence-Based Public Policy Options to Reduce Crime and Criminal Justice Costs: Implications in Washington State." *Victims and Offenders* 4:170-196.

**LATE**

**Hawaii Interpreter Action Network  
c/o Hawaii Newspaper Guild  
888 Mililani Street, Room 303, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813**

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TO: Sen. Brian Taniguchi, Chair; Sen. Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice-chair  
Members, Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations

FROM: M. Alohalani Boido, M. A., President, Hawaii Interpreter Action Network  
Hawaii Judiciary Certified Court Interpreter (Tier 4)  
Tel.: 946-2558, E-mail: boido@hawaii.edu

HEARING: March 17, 2010, 9:30 a.m., Conf. Rm. 106

RE: **SUPPORT, HB 2000 HD2**, Judiciary Budget

Sen. Taniguchi, Sen. Takamine, and all members of this Committee: thank you for hearing this bill.

I am Marcella Alohalani Boido, M. A., a Hawaii Judiciary Certified court interpreter (Spanish & English), a founding member of Hawaii Interpreter Action Network (HIAN), and currently the HIAN President. HIAN is dedicated to representing Hawaii's court interpreters. We work to elevate professional standards of competence and ethics, and to improve working conditions.

Hawaii has one of the highest percentages of residents with limited English proficiency of any state. Our population is also one of the most linguistically diverse in the country. We, the members of HIAN, are the professionals who provide the language services needed by this population, so that they can fully participate in the life of our community.

**HIAN strongly supports the Judiciary's court interpreter certification program, and the Office on Equality and Access to the Courts (OEAC), which carries out that program. They are doing an outstanding job. We also support the Judiciary's funding for court interpreter services.** Both the OEAC and court interpreter services funding are essential to the provision of linguistic due process to Hawaii's large Limited-English Proficient population. Please keep intact the funding for both the OEAC and the court interpreter services.

We also wish to call attention to the position of the **Court Support Services Coordinator**, located within the office of the Deputy Chief Court Administrator's Office, located at Honolulu District Court. The Judiciary's attempts to replace the work done by the current position holder have been extremely unsatisfactory and unsuccessful. **The position needs to be funded and made permanent.**

These steps are essential to the provision of linguistic due process to people going through our court system. A sense of fairness demands funding these services and positions.

**Please support HB 2000, HD 2.** Thank you.

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**From:** Kavan.K.Saiki@hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2010 6:34 PM  
**To:** JGO Testimony  
**Cc:** Patrick.M.Singsank@courts.state.hi.us; michelle.a.schroeder@courts.state.hi.us  
**Subject:** HB2000 HD2; March 17, 2010 @ 9:30am

**LATE**

To whom it may concern,

My name is Kavan Saiki and I would like to take this opportunity to testify in support of HB 2000 HD2: RELATING TO THE JUDICIARY. As the branch of government that is granted judicial power, it is the Hawaii State Judiciary that is responsible for the administration of justice in Hawaii. Sufficient and appropriate funding is essential for the Hawaii State Judiciary to fulfill its duty. HB2000 will provide the funding that is necessary for the people of Hawaii to continue to have access to justice.

As a current Deputy Attorney General for the State of Hawaii and as a former Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for the County of Maui, I have been able to witness the difference that the Hawaii State Judiciary has made in the lives of the people of Hawaii. This includes, but is not limited to, cases where:

-Children that were victims of crime became survivors of crime with the care and support of the **Children's Justice Center**.

-Individuals and families conquered their addiction to drugs and turned their lives around because of the services they received from **Maui Drug Court** and **2nd Circuit Family Court Drug Court**.

-People suffering from mental illness received appropriate care and treatment through the **2nd Circuit District Court Mental Health Calendar** and the **Office of the Public Guardian**.

-Children were protected by being removed from a family home that was unsafe.

-Children were protected by being returned to or placed in a family home that was safe.

-Victims of crime found justice after having their day in Court.

-Defendants accused of a crime were vindicated after having their day in Court.

-Defendants who could have been incarcerated were rehabilitated after being sentenced to probation with **Adult Client Services**.

-Juvenile law violators were rehabilitated after being placed on probation with **Juvenile client and Family Services**.

In each of those cases, the Hawaii State Judiciary performed its duty and fulfilled its responsibility to administer justice. I strongly support HB2000 because it will provide the Hawaii State Judiciary with the funding necessary to ensure access to justice for all.

Kavan Saiki  
Deputy Attorney General  
State of Hawaii  
Department of the Attorney General  
Family Law Division - Maui

**From:** keo [keo@keoinc.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2010 6:12 PM  
**To:** JGO Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony HB2000

**LATE**

Testimony

Notice of Hearing

RELATING TO THE JUDICIARY  
Appropriations funds to the Judiciary, for FY 2010-2011  
Effective December 21, 2008. (HB2000 HD2)

My name is Jessie Marie Basquez, the Mediation Director of Kauai Economic Opportunity, Incorporated (KEO). I wish to testify in support of HB 2000, HB2  
Relating to the Judiciary to support the Judiciary budget, in particular, in preserving the Mediation Program.

KEO has administered and provided a Mediation Program on Kauai since 1982. Resolving conflicts on a level where the parties come to an agreement that they themselves have "crafted" with the assistance of a trained neutral volunteer mediator has saved thousands of Kauai's residents, thousands, if not millions of dollars, while preserving relationships among the parties. In this past 12 month period KEO conducted 308 mediations involving 1,059 individuals in Landlord/Tenant/Consumer/Merchant, Real Estate, Small Claims, Family and divorce, unfair business practices, educational conflicts, condominium, temporary restraining orders, restorative justice, etc. conflicts.

KEO can cite many examples of resolutions of conflicts among parties through mediation that, if it were not for mediation, would require expensive legal costs. I personally witnessed and conducted a mediation session regarding a court ordered assault case. A family of 4 consisting of a 70 + year old grandmother with legal guardianship of her sixteen year old granddaughter, an adult daughter of the grandmother, and adult daughter in-law of the grandmother, experienced a conflict resulting in the minor granddaughter physically assaulting her aunt, the daughter of the grandmother. The conflict and the assault resulted in a conflict among all 4 parties. The family unit deteriorated an already strained family unit. The case was heard by the court and referred to mediation. Through mediation we learned that this feud was on going for 10 years and resulted in criminal charges. The process provided many opportunities for the family members to share many uncomfortable events, the mediation process resulted in an agreement to resolve their 10 year feud, they agreed to end verbal and physical ill acts towards each other and agreed to peacefully interact as family members. It restored and healed the inter-generational family unit and prevented criminal penalties on the juvenile.

KEO is a part of the Statewide Mediation Centers of Hawaii and firmly believes that the statewide organization strengthens each individual agency, upholds statewide standards for quality and fair mediation. The KEO mediation program as an individual program and as a part of a statewide entity, as well as the Community Action Agency of Kaua'i is particularly keen towards the needs of those in poverty with special needs and those who, at times, are not able to obtain conflict resolution.

KEO has been able to match the Judiciary annual funding of approximately \$42,000.00 with \$5,000.00 from the Hawaii Justice Foundation, \$10,000.00 from Kauai United Way and collected approximately \$6,000.00 in fees. In essence, KEO has been able to match the Judiciary funding by approximately 50% - an excellent rate of return- more importantly an investment in preventing escalation of personal conflicts and or costly legal fees and liabilities - resulting in higher costs to the general populace.



KEO is most sensitive to the dire economic state of the State of Hawaii, but firmly believes that this program interferes in the ills of conflict and poverty and if not allowed to continue will result in a rampant increase in the negative behavior of conflict.

Please help continue to resolve conflicts in a peaceful method by preserving the Budget of the Judiciary, in particular, to continue an Alternative to Dispute Resolution in the way of Mediation.

I thank you for your consideration of my testimony and your support of the KEO's programs throughout so many years in our quest to assist those in need.

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**HB2000 HD2 RELATING TO JUDICIARY** Appropriates funds to the Judiciary for FY 2010-2011.

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS:**

Sen. Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair; Sen. Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair

**Time and Place:** Wednesday, March 17, 2010, 9:30 am at Room 016

## **Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition (HSAC)**

Aloha, Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Takamine and Distinguished Members. My name is Alan Johnson, Chairperson of the Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition, which is a hui of 20 treatment agencies throughout the state.

### **HSAC provides information that treatment saves dollars in this current year.**

Judiciary faces pressing challenges due to substance use disorder addictions resulting in re-offending illicit drug use, probation violations, crime, domestic violence, child abuse, and a host of other safety issues to community.

Treatment now includes criminality as well as treating addiction from alcohol and substance use disorders. Licensed treatment centers are front line providers that divert offenders from incurring expensive jail or prison incarceration.

For just one agency in a given year, about 840 offenders are treated. Of those treated about 60% to 65% are successful outcomes, which is about 500 offenders who are no longer re-offending. Of those offenders, the clear majority would be subject to incarceration at about \$40,000 to \$50,000 per year. If all were incarcerated, it would cost the state about \$20,000,000 to \$25,000,000. Treatment costs about \$2M. If only 25% to 33% were incarcerated, it would cost the state between \$5M to \$8M. Even if Judiciary costs were added, the savings are huge.

Treatment providers, probation officers and Project Hope are front line providers who save the State millions of dollars each year because they keep large numbers of offenders from being incarcerated as well as from re-offending.

**Treatment in Hawaii for Offenders saves dollars in the current year, not just future years. Treatment saves a minimum of about \$2.00 to \$2.65 for every \$1.00 spent on treatment in the current year – and the savings are much larger when considering subsequent years.**

Total savings for current year plus subsequent years are reported to be up to \$7 dollars per \$1 dollar spent on treatment according to independently federally funded studies.

We recommend that strategically we consider safety, crime and cost as they correlate to outcomes to not reduce the Judiciary's budget for treatment and probation. While we must reduce to survive, we want to strategically not reduce those who are doing the heavy lifting with cost cutting results.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony and are available for questions.

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**From:** Luke Aitken [aitkenrocks@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 17, 2010 8:59 AM  
**To:** JGO Testimony  
**Subject:** HB 2000 HD2

**LATE**

Aloha, I'm writing to urge the continuation of funding without reduction of the court mediation referral program. There is no doubt in anyone's mind that this program saves the court system money, so in these cashstrapped times, that alone is sufficient reason to continue supporting this program. Michael Aitken, Waimea, big island

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 17, 2010 4:47 PM  
**To:** JGO Testimony  
**Cc:** pjamhawaii@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2000 on 3/17/2010 9:30:00 AM

**LATE**

Testimony for JGO 3/17/2010 9:30:00 AM HB2000

Conference room: 016  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: polly tanji  
Organization: Individual  
Address: 3633 Waialae Avenue Honolulu, Hawaii  
Phone: 733-4890  
E-mail: [pjamhawaii@yahoo.com](mailto:pjamhawaii@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 3/17/2010

**Comments:**

Dear Senator Taniguchi:

I am writing in support of HB2000 HD2. I urge the State to preserve the Judiciary's budget, which includes funding for the Judiciary History Center.

As a middle school and elementary school teacher, the resources provided by the Judiciary History Center have been invaluable for both my professional development and for my students.

The professional development workshop(s) and teacher resources have greatly and positively affected how I teach U.S. history and the judiciary process. The loss of resources and personnel at the Judiciary History Center would severely limit the scope and breadth of teaching in this subject area. In addition, the networking of like-minded colleagues, who want to make history come alive for our students, would be severely curtailed, without the central hub of the Judiciary History Center and its personnel.

I urge you to continue funding for the Judiciary History Center, as it has (in the past), and will continue to demonstrate, its value to teachers and students alike. It's a good investment to continuing to insure our childrens' civic-mindedness and participation in their political future(s) as well.

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 17, 2010 4:50 PM  
**To:** JGO Testimony  
**Cc:** pjamhawaii@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2000 on 3/17/2010 9:30:00 AM

**LATE**

Testimony for JGO 3/17/2010 9:30:00 AM HB2000

Conference room: 016  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: polly tanji  
Organization: Individual  
Address: 3633 Waialae Avenue Honolulu, Hawaii  
Phone: 733-4890  
E-mail: [pjamhawaii@yahoo.com](mailto:pjamhawaii@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 3/17/2010

**Comments:**

Dear Senator Taniguchi:

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I urge you to continue funding for the Judiciary History Center, as it has (in the past), and will continue to demonstrate, its value to teachers and students alike. It's a good investment to continuing to insure our childrens' civic-mindedness and participation in their political future(s) as well.

Thank you very much for considering my testimony in support of HB2000 HD2.

Sincerely,  
Polly Tanji  
Teacher, Lili'uokalani Elementary School