



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony COMMENTING on HB 1241, HD1
RELATING TO HEALTH**

SENATOR JOSH GREEN, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Hearing Date: March 18, 2015

Room Number: 414

Fiscal Implications: HB1241, HD1 provides an unspecified appropriation in general funds to the Department of Health (DOH) for lead poisoning prevention activities. To implement this measure, DOH will need one full-time coordinator position and funding for outreach and education, updating Hawaii guidelines, and facilitating data collection and analysis. The DOH is not able to conduct lead poisoning prevention activities within existing resources.

Department Testimony: The Department appreciates the intent of the bill, but defers to the Governor's Executive Budget request and the Department of Health's appropriations and personnel priorities. To conduct lead poisoning prevention activities, the DOH will need additional resources.

Currently, requests for childhood lead poisoning information and management are received by three programs within the DOH – Children with Special Health Needs Branch, Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response Office, or Lead and Asbestos Program in the Indoor and Radiological Health Branch. There has not been a formal effort for lead poisoning prevention since the ending of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program grant in 2003.

Data from the Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response Office shows that 60,301 children were screened from 2007-2014. Of these, 1,027 (1.7%) children were found to have elevated blood lead levels greater than or equal to 5 micrograms/deciliter of blood. Based on the 2013 population estimate of 90,770 Hawaii children under age 5 years, potentially there may be over 1,500 children with elevated blood lead levels each year.

1 The “reference level” for elevated blood lead levels at 5 micrograms/deciliter was
2 established by the CDC in 2012, based on scientific studies showing that even low blood lead
3 levels can cause lifelong health effects, including cognitive (IQ deficits, attention-related
4 behaviors, impact on in academic achievement), cardiovascular, immunological, and endocrine
5 effects. The early identification of lead exposure allows parents, doctors, public health officials,
6 and communities to take action earlier to reduce a child’s future exposure to lead, through lead
7 education, environmental investigations, and additional medical monitoring.

8 No safe blood lead level in children has been identified. Lead poisoning prevention
9 education includes reducing environmental exposures from soil, dust, paint, water, and other
10 sources of lead, before children are exposed to these hazards.

11 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: joyamarshall0416@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1241 on Mar 18, 2015 13:30PM*
Date: Friday, March 13, 2015 7:19:58 PM

HB1241

Submitted on: 3/13/2015

Testimony for HTH on Mar 18, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joy Marshall	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: pipelinemax@outlook.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1241 on Mar 18, 2015 13:30PM*
Date: Monday, March 16, 2015 6:50:42 PM

HB1241

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for HTH on Mar 18, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kimo Cruz	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov