



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF YOUTH SERVICES
707 Richards Street, Suite 525
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

February 4, 2015

TO: The Honorable Dee Morikawa, Chair
Committee on Human Services

FROM: David Hipp, Executive Director

SUBJECT: HB 1461 – Relating to Youth

Hearing: Thursday, February 5, 2015, 8:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 329

PURPOSE: The purpose of HB 1461 is to establish an alternative school program to facilitate the ongoing education of juveniles in the justice system or other at risk youth in the Leeward Oahu and metro-Honolulu areas.

OFFICE'S POSITION: The Office of Youth Services (OYS) appreciates the intent of HB 1461, but requests that any appropriation not affect the priorities in the Executive Biennium Budget.

The education of youth involved in the juvenile justice system is one of the most critical factors for the successful transition to adulthood. A common denominator of the youth incarcerated at the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility is failure in their neighborhood schools. Additionally, there is a direct correlation between a lack of education and crime.

Alternative schools would present both a vital and unique opportunity for those youth for whom traditional education models have proven unsuccessful.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 02/05/2015

Time: 08:30 AM

Location: 329

Committee: House Human Services

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 1461 RELATING TO YOUTH.

Purpose of Bill: Appropriates funds to the department of education for the development of an alternative school program that provides ongoing education to juveniles involved in the justice system, and other youth.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) appreciates the intent of HB 1461 to establish an alternative school program concentrated on the Leeward Oahu and metro-Honolulu areas that provides ongoing education to juveniles involved in the justice system.

The proposed measure presents an opportunity for the Department to expand programmatic services for at-risk youth by ensuring that they have access to appropriate educational and support services in an alternative learning center.

We appreciate that the bill recognizes the need for an additional general fund appropriation to assist with the effective implementation of this measure. The Department requests that the implementation of HB 1461 would not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



The Judiciary, State of Hawaii

Testimony to the House Committee on Human Services

Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair

Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 5, 2015 8:30a.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 329

by

R. Mark Browning

Deputy Chief Judge, Senior Judge

Family Court of the First Circuit

Bill No. and Title: House Bill No. 1461, Relating to Youth

Purpose: Appropriates funds to the Department of Education for the development of an alternative school program that provides ongoing education to juveniles involved in the justice system, and other youth.

Judiciary's Position:

The Judiciary supports this bill. Due to their background that may include traumatic life experiences, dysfunctional families, early and ongoing neglect and abuse, and lack of school readiness, some youth involved in the juvenile justice system are unable to succeed in the traditional school setting, despite their best efforts and the best efforts of their teachers. In the past, such alternative schools have succeeded with many of these juveniles. Furthermore, the Department of Education operates very effective schools in both the detention home and the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility. This bill recognizes this unfortunate truth and will bring extra monies to assist these youth, to maximize their chances to develop into healthy and contributing members of this community.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill.

HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

677 Ala Moana Boulevard, Suite 702 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: (808) 531-2198 Fax: (808) 534-1199

Web site: <http://www.hysn.org> E-mail: info@hysn.org

Daryl Selman, President
Judith F. Clark, Executive Director
Aloha House
American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii
Bay Clinic, Inc.
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Honolulu
Big Island Substance Abuse Council
Blueprint for Change
Bobby Benson Center
Catholic Charities Hawaii
Child and Family Service
Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii
Courage House Hawaii
Domestic Violence Action Center
EPIC, Inc.
Family Programs Hawaii
Family Support Hawaii
Hale Kipa, Inc.
Hale 'Opio Kauai, Inc.
Hawaii Behavioral Health
Hawaii Student Television
Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition
Hina Mauka Teen Care
Hui Malama Learning Center
Kaanalike
Kahi Mohala Behavioral Health
KEY (Kualoa-Heeia Ecumenical Youth)
Project
Kids Hurt Too
Kokua Kalihi Valley
Life Foundation
Marimed Foundation
Maui Youth and Family Services
Palama Settlement
P.A.R.E.N.T.S., Inc.
Parents and Children Together (PACT)
Planned Parenthood of Hawaii
REAL
Salvation Army Family Intervention Svcs.
Salvation Army Family Treatment Svcs.
Sex Abuse Treatment Center
Susannah Wesley Community Center

February 2, 2015

To: Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair
And members of the Committee on Human Services

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO HB 1461 RELATING TO YOUTH

Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, opposes HB 1461 Relating to Youth.

Youth that are involved in the juvenile justice system need supports from their family, school and community. Nearly half have been arrested for status offenses such as running away from home or being truant from school.

They are already stigmatized and traumatized by their involvement with the law enforcement and court systems. They should not be stigmatized further by removal from their home school and friends into an alternative school placement unless they are unable to function in a regular school setting.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark
Executive Director

The Catalyst Group
The Children's Alliance of Hawaii
Waikiki Health Center
Women Helping Women
YWCA of Kauai

While much of the network is already in place, funding is needed to ensure 24-hour crisis response capability, provide training of youth workers, and ensure coordination of services among the various providers.

The 24-hour crisis response will follow the National Safe Place model, in which community partners, such as fire stations and public bus systems are recruited as places where young people can go in an emergency. It may include local businesses and stores, enabling them to provide a valuable community service to youth and their families. Staff in those companies are trained and provided with a 24-hour number to call. Workers from the 24-hour site assess the situation, notify parents, and can arrange emergency shelter, make reports to Child Protective Service, or provide other appropriate responses to the situation.

After the immediate crisis response, youth-serving agencies will help families resolve the issues that led the youth to seek help from a Safe Place site.

The Safe Places for Youth Network will help youth and families resolve problems before they get out of control.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark, MPH
Executive Director



kobayashi2-Lynda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2015 4:04 PM
To: HUS testimony
Cc: lorenn@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1461 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

Categories: Yellow Category

HB1461

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for HUS on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------|---|--------------------|--------------------|
| Lorenn Walker | Hawai'i Friends of Justice & Civic Education | Oppose | No |

Comments: Placing deviant youth together works to ensure they will learn more dangerous behavior. Please see: <http://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED521749.pdf> Criminologists have known for years the dangers in segregating deviant youth together. Please support schools and programs for all of Hawai'i youth and do no harm in enacting public policies that endanger our community and further hurt the chances of troubled youth from reforming.

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

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

P.O. Box 37158, Honolulu, HI 96837-0158

Phone/E-Mail: (808) 927-1214 / kat.caphi@gmail.com



COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair

Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 5, 2015

8:30 a.m.

Room 329

OPPOSE HB 1461 – ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS

Aloha Chair Morikawa, Vice Chair Kobayashi and Members of the Committee!

My name is Kat Brady and I am the Coordinator of Community Alliance on Prisons, a community initiative promoting smart justice policies for almost two decades. This testimony is respectfully offered on behalf of the 5,600 Hawai'i individuals living behind bars, always mindful that more than 1,600, and soon to be rising number of Hawai'i individuals who are serving their sentences abroad, thousands of miles away from their loved ones, their homes and, for the disproportionate number of incarcerated Native Hawaiians, far from their ancestral lands.

HB 1461 appropriates funds to the department of education for the development of an alternative school program that provides ongoing education to juveniles involved in the justice system, and other youth.

Community Alliance on Prisons is in **OPPOSITION** to this measure.

While mainstreaming students is happening, the prosecutor is proposing to do the opposite. We have spoken to teachers, social scientists, psychologists and people in the community and everyone agrees: THIS IS A BAD IDEA.

Community Alliance on Prisons respectfully asks the committee to hold this bill.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

kobayashi2-Lynda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2015 3:13 PM
To: HUS testimony
Cc: hokuokekai50@msn.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1461 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

Categories: Yellow Category

HB1461

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for HUS on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Mary Lacques | 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

kobayashi2-Lynda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2015 4:45 PM
To: HUS testimony
Cc: theede@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1461 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

Categories: Yellow Category

HB1461

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for HUS on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Teri Heede | 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

kobayashi2-Lynda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2015 9:01 PM
To: HUS testimony
Cc: kalele33@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1461 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

Categories: Yellow Category

HB1461

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for HUS on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|----------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Lisa Jaramillo | 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

kobayashi2-Lynda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 7:05 AM
To: HUS testimony
Cc: theede@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1461 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

Categories: Yellow Category

HB1461

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for HUS on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Teri Heede | 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

kobayashi2-Lynda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 1:02 PM
To: HUS testimony
Cc: mauicrowe@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1461 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

Categories: Yellow Category

HB1461

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for HUS on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| james crowe | Individual | Oppose | No |

Comments: Setting juveniles apart and labeling them as young criminals went out of youth advocacy practice quite a few years ago. Mainstreaming, and keeping them close as possible to their family is the contemporary method. I speak from forty-five years as a career youth advocate. 808 876 1975

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

LATE

DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

ALII PLACE
1060 RICHARDS STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 547-7400 • FAX: (808) 547-7515

KEITH M. KANESHIRO
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

ARMINA A. CHING
FIRST DEPUTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



THE HONORABLE DEE MORIKAWA, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2015
State of Hawai'i

February 5, 2015

RE: H.B. 1461; RELATING TO YOUTH.

Chair Morikawa, Vice-Chair Kobayashi and members of the House Committee on Human Services, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu ("Department") **strongly supports** the intent of H.B. 1461, with a **proposed H.D. 1** attached. In 2013, our Department worked closely with the Department of Education ("DOE") to develop language that would meet their needs in this regard. Our proposed H.D.1, attached, contains that same language (with relevant dates updated).

The intent of H.B. 1461 is consistent with this Department's ongoing concern for at-risk youth, as reflected in our efforts to submit similar bills [S.B. 419 (2013) and H.B. 237 (2013)]. Over the years, increases in juvenile crime have prompted various business groups to request assistance in curbing crime against their establishments, and the Department has seen increasing incidents where the juvenile offenders are as young as 12 years old. Many of these juvenile offenders are excluded (primarily through their own doing) from the traditional public education system, which only worsens the problem and may increase the chances of future involvement in the criminal justice system. At the same time, the Family Court has implemented a program called Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative, in which juveniles are (ideally) diverted from detention to attend alternative programs. Yet there continue to be very few programs available to juvenile offenders in Hawaii, often leaving them with little or no meaningful alternatives.

While the purpose of H.B. 1461 is to establish an alternative school program for juveniles involved in the justice system, it is our understanding that the DOE currently maintains a number of "alternative learning centers" that serve this general purpose. That said, more programs are desperately needed, and the Department strongly believes that **two (2) additional "alternative schools" are needed** to adequately service our at-risk youth. We defer to the DOE regarding exactly what would be entailed or necessary to implement these additional alternative schools,

but we highly recommend looking at the DOE's "High Core Program"—formerly known as Storefront School—which is located in Wahiawa.

Alternative schools such as High Core provide a non-traditional education that addresses each individual student. Students who are identified by their home-schools as severely alienated or at-risk are enrolled in the alternative school, with a goal to reduce or prevent student dropout in the school district. In addition to academics, High Core provides its students with a learning environment that is better-suited to their needs, and helps them to develop appropriate socio-emotional competencies and other self-development through guidance and counseling activities.

Although our Department's primary role is to prosecute juvenile and criminal cases within the justice system, our overarching focus is on public safety for the community, and that starts with prevention and education. If a sufficient number of programs like High Core were developed and implemented, the Department strongly believes that many more at-risk youth could be "diverted" before they ever become part of the juvenile justice system, or the criminal justice system.

For all the reasons above, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu strongly supports H.B. 1461, with the proposed H.D. 1 attached. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Report Title:

Relating to Youth

Description:

Appropriates funds to the department of education for two (2) alternative schools to provide ongoing education to juveniles involved in the justice system or at-risk of involvement in the justice system. Effective 7/1/15. (Proposed H.D. 1)

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO YOUTH.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. There is appropriated out of the general
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
3 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 for a
4 grant-in-aid to the department of education, to establish and
5 maintain an alternative school in the Leeward School District of
6 Oahu, to provide ongoing education to juveniles involved in the
7 justice system or at high-risk of involvement in the justice
8 system.

9 Said funding shall be provided to the Department of
10 Education for the sole purpose of establishing and maintaining a
11 single alternative school in the Leeward School District of
12 Oahu, which shall be an off-campus Alternative Learning Center
13 (ALC) modeled after the High Core Program in the Central School
14 District of Oahu. Applicable expenses may include utilities,
15 curriculum, equipment, supplies and the hiring of necessary
16 staff.

1 Similar to the High Core Program, the alternative school in
2 Leeward School District of Oahu shall service at-risk students
3 from all secondary schools in the District, who are referred by
4 their home schools after all school level resources have been
5 utilized. The alternative school shall offer a variety of
6 programs to meet the particular needs of its students, including
7 but not limited to full-time programs, before- and after-school
8 programs, and twilight school programs. Alternative school
9 participants shall be identified by one or more of the following
10 criteria:

- 11 a. Ten or more unauthorized absences (current or previous
12 quarter)
- 13 b. Academic failure in two or more courses (current or
14 previous quarter)
- 15 c. Three or more disciplinary referrals; Chapter 19
16 Disciplinary Referrals for A, B, C and D offenses
- 17 d. One or more grade levels behind, retention (from Grade
18 K to current)
- 19 e. Adjudicated, involvement with the Juvenile Justice
20 System (current status)
- 21 f. Other at-risk factor as determined by the home school

22 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
23 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
24 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 for a

1 grant-in-aid to the department of education, to establish and
2 maintain an alternative school in the Honolulu School District
3 of Oahu, to provide ongoing education to juveniles involved in
4 the justice system or at high-risk of involvement in the justice
5 system.

6 Said funding shall be provided to the Department of
7 Education for the sole purpose of establishing and maintaining a
8 single alternative school in the Honolulu School District of
9 Oahu, which shall be an off-campus Alternative Learning Center
10 (ALC) modeled after the High Core Program in the Central School
11 District of Oahu. Applicable expenses may include utilities,
12 curriculum, equipment, supplies and the hiring of necessary
13 staff.

14 Similar to the High Core Program, the alternative school in
15 Honolulu School District of Oahu shall service at-risk students
16 from all secondary schools in the District, who are referred by
17 their home schools after all school level resources have been
18 utilized. The alternative school shall offer a variety of
19 programs to meet the particular needs of its students, including
20 but not limited to full-time programs, before- and after-school
21 programs, and twilight school programs. Alternative school
22 participants shall be identified by one or more of the following
23 criteria:

- 1 a. Ten or more unauthorized absences (current or previous
2 quarter)
- 3 b. Academic failure in two or more courses (current or
4 previous quarter)
- 5 c. Three or more disciplinary referrals; Chapter 19
6 Disciplinary Referrals for A, B, C and D offenses
- 7 d. One or more grade levels behind, retention (from Grade
8 K to current)
- 9 e. Adjudicated, involvement with the Juvenile Justice
10 System (current status)
- 11 f. Other at-risk factor as determined by the home school

12 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2015.

INTRODUCED BY: _____