

HAWAI‘I CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 411 HONOLULU, HI 96813 · PHONE: 586-8636 · FAX: 586-8655 · TDD: 568-8692

January 31, 2020
Rm. 329, 8:30 a.m.

To: The Honorable Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair
The Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Human Services and Homelessness

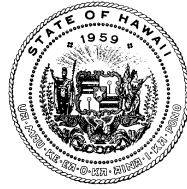
From: Liann Ebesugawa, Chair
and Commissioners of the Hawai‘i Civil Rights Commission

Re: H.B. No. 1667

The Hawai‘i Civil Rights Commission (HCRC) has enforcement jurisdiction over Hawai‘i’s laws prohibiting discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations, and access to state and state funded services (on the basis of disability). The HCRC carries out the Hawai‘i constitutional mandate that no person shall be discriminated against in the exercise of their civil rights. Art. I, Sec. 5.

The HCRC supports H.B. No. 1667.

H.B. No.1667, if enacted, will designate the month of October as “Disability Awareness Month: Employment, Enrichment, and Inclusion,” in the State of Hawai‘i. Observance of this newly designated month recognizing the employment challenges faced by persons with disabilities and highlighting their successes and contributions will raise awareness and foster greater opportunities.



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

Testimony in SUPPORT of H.B. 1667
RELATING TO HEALTH

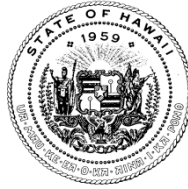
REPRESENTATIVE JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES & HOMELESSNESS

Hearing Date: January 31, 2020
8:30 a.m.

Room Number: 329

- 1 **Department Position:** The Department of Health (Department) **SUPPORTS** this Measure to
- 2 designate the month of October as “Disability Awareness Month: Employment, Enrichment, and
- 3 Inclusion.”
- 4 **Department Testimony:** The subject matter of this measure falls within the scope of the
- 5 Department’s Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) whose statutory mandate is to assure a
- 6 comprehensive statewide behavioral health care system by leveraging and coordinating public,
- 7 private and community resources. Through the BHA, the Department is committed to carrying
- 8 out this mandate by reducing silos, and ensuring behavioral health care is readily accessible and
- 9 person centered. The BHA’s Developmental Disabilities Division (DDD) provides the following
- 10 testimony on behalf of the Department.
- 11 “Disability Awareness Month” celebrates and educates the public about the contributions of
- 12 workers with disabilities. Activities during October will reinforce the value and talent people
- 13 with disabilities add to our workplaces and businesses and affirm a commitment to an inclusive
- 14 community.
- 15 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
LYNN A.S. ARAKI-REGAN
DEREK J. CHOW
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

January 31, 2020
8:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 329

H.B. 1667
RELATING TO HEALTH

House Committee on Human Services and Homelessness

The Hawaii Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** H.B.1667 which designates the month of October as “Disability Awareness Month: Employment, Enrichment, and Inclusion.”

The DOT believes in providing an equal employment opportunity to all qualified individuals, including persons with disabilities. DOT recognizes that these individuals make positive contributions to our community, economy, and workplaces when given the opportunity to share their talents, skills and abilities as members of Hawaii’s workforce.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
PRINCESS VICTORIA KAMAMALU BUILDING
1010 RICHARDS STREET, Room 122
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543

January 31, 2020

The Honorable Representative Joy San Buenaventura, Chair
House of Representatives Committee on Human Services and Homelessness
Thirtieth Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawai'i
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Representative Joy San Buenaventura, and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: HB 1667 - Relating to Health

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities **STRONGLY SUPPORTS HB 1667**. The bill designates the month of October as "Disability Awareness Month: Employment, Enrichment, and Inclusion" to annually recognize the immense contributions and achievements of persons with disabilities in the State.

People with disabilities cross lines of age, ethnicity, gender, race, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status. It is a group **anyone** can become a member of at any time. Disability Awareness Month in October will allow us to celebrate the skills, talents, and abilities people with disabilities contribute to Hawaii's future prosperity. It will also provide a venue to highlight the success of individuals with disabilities in the workforce. A valuable tool in providing awareness, that employment is possible, to school-aged children with disabilities and their families.

Awareness is the most effective way to create systems change.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **strong support of HB 1667**.

Sincerely,

Daintry Bartoldus
Executive Administrator

HB-1667

Submitted on: 1/28/2020 8:01:45 PM

Testimony for HSH on 1/31/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carmie Spellman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



SCOTT T. MURAKAMI
DIRECTOR

ANNE EUSTAQUIO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
www.labor.hawaii.gov
Phone: (808) 586-8844 / Fax: (808) 586-9099
Email: dlir.director@hawaii.gov

LATE

January 30, 2020

To: The Honorable Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair,
The Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura, Vice Chair, and
Members of the House Committee on Human Services and
Homelessness

Date: Friday, January 31, 2020
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 329, State Capitol

From: Scott T. Murakami, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

Re: H.B. No. 1667 RELATING TO HEALTH

I. OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

HB1667 proposes to amend Chapter 8 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes by adding a new section, designating October to be "Disability Awareness Month: Employment, Enrichment, and Inclusion."

DLIR supports this measure as it recognizes the contributions and achievements that those with disabilities make to our community.

II. CURRENT LAW

N/A.

III. COMMENTS ON THE HOUSE BILL

DLIR works with its partners on programs and projects such as the Disabled Employment Initiative (DEI), the Summer Youth Program, and the Waipahu High School Ohana Academy Initiative. These programs and projects help youth and adults with disabilities experience training and potential employment opportunities in the workforce.

The DEI has expanded the capacity of American Job Centers (AJCs), formerly known as the One-Stop Centers, to promote the use of existing career pathways to

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program
Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.
TDD/TTY Dial 711 then ask for (808) 586-8866.

serve youth and adults with disabilities, including individuals with significant disabilities, and expand existing career pathways systems to be fully inclusive and accessible to individuals with disabilities.

The Summer Youth Program provides youths with disabilities job experience at State departments, including DLIR, and has led to state employment for some former participants. Similarly, the Ohana Academy connects youths with disabilities to participating employers where they experience on-the-job training for various professions.

DLIR applauds opportunities such as the designation of Disability Awareness Month to expand the awareness of the employment contributions and achievements of those with disabilities.