

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE: S.B. NO. 2114, RELATING TO THE CHILDREN'S JUSTICE PROGRAM. BEFORE THE: HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS DATE: Thursday, March 17, 2022 TIME: 2:00 p.m. LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 325, Via Videoconference TESTIFIER(S): Holly T. Shikada, Attorney General, or Farshad M. Talebi, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Nakashima and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General (Department) supports this bill.

This bill would update the purpose of the children's justice program to include supporting suspected or confirmed child witnesses to crime or violence, as well as supporting the interagency investigation and management of cases involving victims of suspected or confirmed child sex trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation of children, and other child maltreatment.

The children's justice program currently plays a vital role in providing support for the special needs of child victims and witnesses of child sex abuse and serious physical child abuse. The bill recognizes that victims of child sex trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation of children, and other child maltreatment and child witnesses to crime or violence are also vulnerable and experience various forms of complex trauma, and would benefit from the support of the children's justice program. Expanding the purpose of the program to include these additional victim populations aligns with the mission of the children's justice program and will help reduce and prevent unnecessary trauma while ensuring justice for children and their families.

The Department respectfully asks the Committee to pass this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



The Judiciary, State of Hawai'i

Testimony to the Thirty-First Legislature 2022 Regular Session

House Committee on Judiciary Representative Mark M. Nakashima, Chair Representative Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair

Thursday, March 17, 2022, 2:00 p.m. State Capitol, Conference Room 325, Via Videoconference

by Jasmine Mau-Mukai Statewide Director, Children's Justice Centers of Hawai'i

Bill No. and Title: Senate Bill No. 2114, Relating to Children's Justice Program.

Purpose: Updates the purpose of the Children's Justice Program to include investigation and management of cases involving suspected or confirmed child sex trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation of children, other child maltreatment, and child witnesses to crime or violence. Makes conforming amendments.

Judiciary's Position:

The Hawa'i State Judiciary is in strong support of Senate Bill No. 2114, Relating to the Children's Justice Program.

The Children's Justice Program was established within the Hawai'i State Judiciary to ensure a fair and neutral process for the handling of reports of alleged child sexual abuse that protects the rights of both victims and alleged perpetrators. The Program operates children's justice centers, ("The Children's Justice Center," "CJC," or "Center"), statewide, where specially-trained professionals conduct forensic interviews of child victims and witnesses in a safe and neutral setting.

Since its establishment, CJC's operations have expanded to include cases involving child abuse or neglect, generally, and child witnesses. Its current priorities are for cases involving: (1) sexual abuse of a child; (2) serious physical child abuse; (3) child sex trafficking/commercial



Senate Bill No. 2114, Relating to the Children's Justice Program House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs Thursday, March 17, 2022 Page 2

sexual exploitation of children; (4) other child maltreatment; and (5) children who are witnesses to crime or violence. This bill proposes amendments to reflect these updated priorities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR



CATHY BETTS DIRECTOR

JOSEPH CAMPOS II DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

P. O. Box 339 Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

March 15, 2022

TO: The Honorable Representative Mark M. Nakashima, Chair House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Cathy Betts, Director

SUBJECT: SB 2114 – RELATING TO THE CHILDREN'S JUSTICE PROGRAM.

HEARING: March 17, 2022, 2:00 p.m. Via Videoconference, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports this bill. PURPOSE: The purpose of this bill is to update the purpose of the Children's Justice Program to include investigation and management of cases involving suspected or confirmed child sex trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation of children, other child maltreatment, and child witnesses to crime or violence.

The continued collaboration with the Judiciary's Children's Justice Centers (CJC) is crucial for DHS Child Welfare Services Branch (CWS) to ensure children's well-being and safety. CWS has a working agreement with the Children's Justice Program to conduct joint interviews, whenever possible at the CJC, in cases of intrafamilial child sex abuse, sexual exploitation of a child, and serious physical child abuse. The purposes of this coordinated investigative interview are to ensure that the child is seen and assessed in a timely manner, in a child-friendly environment, by a trained team member who will gather the necessary information and minimize the number of interviews the child undergoes to reduce any re-traumatization of the child while involved in the child welfare and or criminal justice systems. CWS protocols are currently in place to ensure that child victims of sex trafficking, commercial sex exploitation, and child abuse or neglect are immediately identified, assessed, and provided with appropriate services and protections, regardless of parental abuse or neglect. In addition, DHS has a contracted provider that provides statewide victim-centered, trauma-informed, comprehensive services that are individualized and responsive to the needs, values, culture, and gender identity of child victims of all forms of human trafficking.

The CJCs, located statewide, also coordinate multidisciplinary team meetings; DHS and its contracted provider participate in these team meetings. The primary purposes of these meetings are to discuss case planning and implementation of coordinated services for the child victims of sex trafficking and serious physical child abuse cases.

The updated priorities of the Children's Justice Program to include all types of child abuse and neglect will ensure that the CJCs are authorized to provide the same services to all child victims who are subject to harm or threatened harm with priority given to sexual abuse or sexual exploitation of a child, serious physical child abuse, child trafficking, and cases involving child witnesses.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this bill.

Written Only

KEITH T. HAYASHI INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION P.O. BOX 2360 HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96804

> Date: 03/17/2022 Time: 02:00 PM Location: 325 Via Videoconference Committee: House Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Interim Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill:SB 2114 RELATING TO THE CHILDREN'S JUSTICE
PROGRAM.

Purpose of Bill: Updates the purpose of the children's justice program to include investigation and management of cases involving suspected or confirmed child sex trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation of children, other child maltreatment, and child witnesses to crime or violence. Makes conforming amendments.

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports SB 2114.

The Department recognizes the importance of awareness, prevention, and the provision of services to victims of sexual exploitation and sex trafficking and is already committed to delivering training/programming to middle/intermediate and high school students and faculty. As such, the Department supports agencies such as the Children's Justice Centers of Hawaii who specialize in investigations and management of cases involving child victims.

The Department acknowledges the work of the Children's Justice Centers of Hawaii and other government and non-profit agencies as critical in addressing the sexual abuse continuum in Hawaii.

The Department currently collaborates and consults with the Children's Justice Centers

of Hawaii and views the expansion of their scope of services to include child sex trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation of children, and other forms of child maltreatment as essential in our continued work toward increased child safety in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this measure.

<u>SB-2114</u> Submitted on: 3/16/2022 9:55:31 AM Testimony for JHA on 3/17/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Diana Gausepohl-White	County of Kauai Victim/Witness Program	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SB2114 which expands the types of victimization of children who will receive assistance at the Children's Justice Center. Our two agencies have a well established relationship and collaborate effectively in serving child victims and witnesses.

I respectfully ask that your Committee PASS the Bill. Thank you for your time in this matter.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET · HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 TELEPHONE: (808) 529-3111 · INTERNET: www.honolulupd.org



RICK BLANGIARDI MAYOR

OUR REFERENCE BN-KK

March 17, 2022

The Honorable Mark M. Nakashima, Chair and Members Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs House of Representatives Hawaii State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street, Room 325 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nakashima and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 2114, Relating to the Children's Justice Program

I am Brandon Nakasato, Acting Major of the Criminal Investigation Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The health, safety, and well-being of Hawaii's keiki who are victims or witnesses of any crime or violence continues to be a priority for the HPD and all collaborating partners participating in this program. The HPD supports the proposed amendments to the purpose of the Children's Justice Program to include all child victims or witnesses of all types of cases, suspected or confirmed.

The HPD supports Senate Bill No. 2114, Relating to the Children's Justice Program.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:

acn.

Rade K. Vanic Interim Chief of Police

Sincerely,

22

Brandon Nakasato, Acting Major Criminal Investigation Division

Serving and Protecting With Aloha

RADE K.VANIC

KELDEN B.A. WALTJEN PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

STEPHEN L. FRYE FIRST DEPUTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



655 KILAUEA AVENUE HILO, HAWAI'I 96720 PH: (808) 961-0466 FAX: (808) 961-8908

74-675 KEALAKEHE PARKWAY KAILUA-KONA, HAWAI'I 96740 PH: (808) 322-2552 FAX: (808) 322-6584

64-1067 MAMALAHOA HIGHWAY, C-3 KAMUELA, HAWAI'I 96743 PH: (808) 887-3017 FAX: (808) 887-3016

OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 2114

A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE CHILDREN'S JUSTICE CENTER PROGRAM

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS Representative Mark M. Nakashima, Chair Representative Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair

Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. Via Videoconference & State Capitol Conference Room 325

Honorable Chair Nakashima, Vice-Chair Matayoshi and Members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs. The County of Hawai'i, Office of the Prosecuting Attorney submits the following testimony in support of Senate Bill 2114.

This Bill amends the Children's Justice Program's statute, HRS 588 to include definitions of sexual exploitation, serious physical abuse, child witnesses to crime and child trafficking.

Hawai'i's Children's Justice Centers bring together a multi-disciplinary team of professionals who coordinate responses to child abuse and neglect and assist child victims and witnesses of crime by providing specially-trained professionals who conduct forensic interviews in a warm, home-like setting where children feel comfortable and safe. Since its inception, the Children's Justice Centers have expanded its services and this measure intends to reflect their updated priorities.

As a partner agency of the Children's Justice Centers, we work in collaboration to meet the special needs of child victims or witnesses to crime. Our Office remains committed to ensuring that these services and assistance is provided to all children.

The County of Hawai'i, Office of the Prosecuting Attorney remains committed to the pursuit of justice with integrity and commitment. For the foregoing reasons, the, County of Hawai'i, Office of the Prosecuting Attorney Supports the passage of Senate Bill No. 2114. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Testimony on behalf of the Hawai'i Exploitation and Trafficking (HEAT) Unit



March 16, 2022

SUBJECT: SB2114 Relating to the Children's Justice Program

Dear Chair Nakashima and Committee Members:

We are submitting testimony in **SUPPORT** of SB2114. This bill appropriately expands the program's jurisdiction into suspected or confirmed cases of child sex trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation of children, other child maltreatment, and child witnesses to crime or violence.

The Hawai'i Exploitation and Trafficking (HEAT) Unit was started by Hawai'i County Councilmember Matt Kāneali'i-Kleinfelder and is attended by community organizations and government representatives concerned with sex trafficking.

The Children's Justice Center has been actively involved with our unit's work to more effectively deploy services to victims of exploitation and trafficking. If passed, this bill would reflect the wide variety of crimes against children that the Children's Justice Center multidisciplinary teams are already working on.

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

Mahalo,

Matt Kāneali'i-Kleinfelder Councilmember Hawai'i County District 5

Quiana Anastasio Hawai'i Island Coalition Against Human Trafficking

Evelyn "Kahea" Lee Director Special Projects & Community Collaborative E Hiki Mai Ana (NEXT) LLC

Milleno Mavaega Hawai'i Island Coalition Against Human Trafficking **Rachelle Agrigado**

Center Chief East and West Hawai'i Family Guidance Centers, State of Hawai'i Department of Health

Esau Fualema Hawai'i Island Coalition Against Human Trafficking

Camille Maluo Liaison Hawai'i Exploitation and Trafficking Unit

Rosalina Mavaega Hawai'i Island Coalition Against Human Trafficking

Melody Stone Hawai'i Island Coalition Against

Human Trafficking

St. Michael the Archangel Church

Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i

Rebecca Villegas

Councilmember Hawai'i County District 7



TESTIMONY

House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs Hearing: Thursday, March 17, 2022 (2:00 p.m.)

- TO: The Honorable Mark M. Nakashima, Chair The Honorable Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair
- FROM: Shannon S. Sheldon HSBA President
- RE: Senate Bill No. 2114 Relating to the Children's Justice Program

The innovative and collaborative Children's Justice Program was originally established as a fair and neutral initiative designed to assist in the handling of alleged child abuse cases. The Program utilizes specially trained professionals to conduct forensic interviews of child abuse victims and witnesses in a safe nonthreatening environment.

This bill proposes to expand the Children's Justice Program to also include victims of child sex trafficking, child commercial sexual exploitation, and child witnesses to crime or violence. The proposed expansion is consistent with the Program's original goals, philosophies, and methodologies.

The Hawaii State Bar Association **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** Senate Bill No. 2114 and urges its passage. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Patricia A. Mau-Shimizu 1045A Kilauea Ave. Hilo, Hawaii 96720 Phone 808.935.2188 Fax 808.961.2073 Email cfs@cfs-hawaii.org www.childandfamilyservice.org

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ACCREDITATIONS Council on Accreditation Better Business Bureau

AFFILIATIONS Alliance for Strong Families and Communities Kauai United Way Maui United Way Hawaii Island United Way



Re: Written Testimony (Letter) to the Committee on Judiciary

2/14/2022

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair

Subject: SB 2114, relating to the Children's Justice Program (also known as the Children's Justice Centers of Hawaii).

Hearing Date, Time & Location: February 18, 2022, 9:30 via video conference.

Aloha.

My name is Denby Toci, of Child and Family Service, Hilo Office. We are <u>in favor</u> of **SB 2114.**

This Bill amends the Children's Justice Program's statute, HRS 588:

1) Definitions to include sexual exploitation, serious physical abuse, child witnesses to crime and child trafficking.

As a partner agency of the Children's Justice Centers, we work in collaboration to meet the special needs of children who are alleged victims of child abuse or witnesses to crime.

In closing, we are in strong support of SB 2114 and ask for your assistance in it passing this bill during this legislative session. Mahalo.

Denby Toci Program Director II Child and Family Service 1045A Kilauea Ave, Hilo, Hawaii 96720 Office: 808-935-2188 Cell: 808-960-5588 Email: dtoci@cfs-hawaii.org



Child & Family S E R V I C E Aprivate nonprofit serving Hawai'i since 1899



CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAI'I

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2114: RELATING TO THE CHILDREN'S JUSTICE PROGRAM

TO: House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Rob Van Tassell, President and CEO, Catholic Charities Hawai'i

Hearing: Thursday, 3/17/22; 2:00 PM; via videoconference

Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and Members, Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony **in strong support** of **SB 2114**, which updates the purpose of the Children's Justice Program to include investigation and management of cases involving suspected or confirmed child sex trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation of children, other child maltreatment, and child witnesses to crime or violence. I am Rob Van Tassell, with Catholic Charities Hawai'i.

Catholic Charities Hawai`i (CCH) is a tax exempt, non-profit agency that has been providing social services in Hawai`i for over 75 years. CCH has programs serving elders, children, families, homeless, and immigrants. Our mission is to provide services and advocacy for the most vulnerable in Hawai`i. Catholic Charities Hawai'i has a long history of working in the areas of affordable housing and homelessness.

Catholic Charities Hawaii strongly supports this bill to amend the Children's Justice Program's statute, HRS 588. We support including definitions to include sexual exploitation, serious physical abuse, and child witnesses to crime and child trafficking.

Catholic Charities Hawaii supports the Children's Justice Center's role in the community as a trusted partner in providing social justice and healing to children who experienced maltreatment in any form. Their expertise and ability to lead the community to protect children would do the same for the children who were trafficked. The Center has been providing services for years for children who experienced sexual abuse, physical abuse and other forms of maltreatment. As a partner agency with the Center, we have seen their effectiveness over the years. This bill would enhance their ability to collaborate and meet the special needs of children impacted by sex trafficking and other sexual exploitation.

We urge your support for this bill and ask for your assistance in its passing during this legislative session.

Please contact our Legislative Liaison, Betty Lou Larson at (808) 373-0356 or <u>alohabettylou@hotmail.com</u> if you have any questions.







TO: Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Ryan Kusumoto, President & CEO of Parents And Children Together (PACT)

DATE/LOCATION: March 17, 2022; 2:00 p.m., Conference Room 325/Video Conference

RE: <u>TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2114 RELATING TO THE CHILDREN'S</u> <u>JUSTICE PROGRAM</u>

We support SB 2114 which updates the purpose of the children's justice program to include investigation and management of cases involving suspected or confirmed child sex trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation of children, other child maltreatment, and child witnesses to crime or violence, and makes conforming amendments.

Our agency has collaborated with the Children's Justice Centers on Maui and Oahu in supporting and providing integral services to children and families that have been impacted by child abuse, neglect, domestic violence, child sexual exploitation. The staff are excellent at bringing together community providers and facilitate impactful and focused multi-disciplinary meetings to support families and children with services that can assist them in healing from the trauma that they have experienced. This interagency coordination, information sharing, and gathering provides a needed safety net and identification of clear roles so each of us can best support the family without overwhelming them. The exchange of information assists families at every stage of recovery and throughout the often difficult and challenging process of navigating the criminal justice system.

We support the change in this bill that will add to the current purview of the children's justice program to include the investigation and management of cases involving suspected or confirmed child sex trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation of children, other child maltreatment, and child witnesses to crime or violence. As providers of services to victims and survivors of domestic violence, child abuse, and child sex trafficking, we work with the aftermath of the trauma that individuals who have experienced this type of violence live with every day. Survivors of abuse experience significant and life-long psychological, emotional, and physical

pain that impacts their ability to feel safe in their community, to lead lives without fear and anxiety, and to tell their story without shame.

The children's justice center has built a foundation of care – from investigation to case management – that supports a child fully as they tell their story of abuse, trauma, and pain. Survivors of trauma need a place where they feel safe, supported, and heard – a place where there story will not be lost, but honored and guided to justice. The CJC has been doing this work for years and will continue to be there for the children and families that walk through their doors to offer their support and hope and to give a voice to those that are often silenced.

Founded in 1968, Parents And Children Together (PACT) is one of Hawaii's not-for-profit organizations providing a wide array of innovative and educational social services to underresourced families. Assisting more than 17,000 people across the state annually, PACT helps families identify, address and successfully resolve challenges through its 20 programs. Among its services are: early education programs, domestic violence prevention and intervention programs, child abuse prevention and intervention programs, childhood sexual abuse supportive group services, child and adolescent behavioral health programs, sex trafficking intervention, poverty prevention and community strengthening programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support of SB 2114**, please contact me at (808) 847-3285 or <u>rkusumoto@pacthawaii.org</u> if you have any questions.





March 17, 2022

To: The House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Subject: SB #2114, Relating to the Children's Justice Program

Hearing Date, Time & Location: Thursday, March 17, 2022, 2:00 pm., VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

My name is Guy Nishihira, Board Treasurer of the Friends of the Children's Justice Center of Oahu.

We are in favor of SB #2114.

This Bill amends the Children's Justice Program's statute, HRS 588:

1) Updates the purpose of the Children's Justice Program to include investigation and management of cases involving suspected or confirmed child trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation or children, other child maltreatment, and child witnesses to crime or violence.

As a partner agency of the Children's Justice Centers, we work in collaboration to meet the special needs of children who are alleged victims of child abuse or witnesses to crime.

In closing, we are in strong support of SB #2114 and ask for your assistance in its passing during this legislative session.

Sincerely,

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Guy Nishihira Board Treasurer Friends of the Children's Justice Center of Oahu

745 Fort Street, Suite 2100 Honolulu, HI 96813 Phone: 808-695-3611 LATE *Testimony submitted late may not be considered by the Committee for decision making purposes.

HAWAI'I PACIFIC HEALTH





child

Executive Director Cindy Shimomi-Saito	Date:	March 17, 2022
ADVISORY BOARD	To:	Rep. Mark Nakashima, Chair Rep. Scot Matayoshi, Vice Chair
President Mimi Beams	From:	Lynn Costales Matsuoka, Associate Director
Joanne H. Arizumi		The Sex Abuse Treatment Center
Andre Bisquera		A Program of Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children
Kristen Bonilla	DC.	Testimony in Support of SD 2414
Dawn Ching	RE:	Testimony in Support of SB 2114 Relating to the Children's Justice Center
Monica Cobb-Adams		
Donne Dawson	Hearing:	March 17, 2022, 2:00 PM
Donalyn Dela Cruz		
Dennis Dunn	Cood Mo	ming Chair Nekeshime and Vice Chair Matewashi, and Members of the
Steven T. Emura, M.D.		ning Chair Nakashima and Vice Chair Matayoshi, and Members of the e on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs:
David I. Haverly	Committee	
Linda Jameson	The Sex A	Abuse Treatment Center (SATC) is in support of SB 2114, Relating to the
Lindsay Norcross Mist	Children's	s Justice Center.
Nadine Tenn Salle, M.D.	The Child	ren's Justice Center (CJC) has long been a leader in managing the
Joshua A. Wisch	interagen who hand	cy and inter professional coordination and cooperation between agencies le the treatment, identification, and investigation (civil and criminal) of chil th physical and sexual. Over the course of many years it has established

respond to child abuse.

you for your consideration.

professional relationships with government and non-government agencies that

to include child sex trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of children.

The SATC supports the continued work of the CJC and supports SB 2114. Thank

The proposed legislation in SB 2114 is a natural extension of the statutory purview of the CJC in developing and coordinating a seamless system response to child abuse,

The Sex Abuse Treatment Center at Kapi'olani I 55 Merchant Street I 22nd Floor I Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

LATE *Testimony submitted late may not be considered by the Committee for decision making purposes.



Written Testimony to the Legislature

LATE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THE THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 2022

March 17, 2022

To: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS Rep. Mark M. Nakashima, Chair Rep. Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Rep. Nadine K. Nakamura, Rep. Dale T. Kobayashi, Rep. Roy M. Takumi, Rep. Matthew S. LoPresti, Rep. Chris Todd, Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Rep. James Kunane Tokioka, Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Rep. Gene Ward

Subject: SB 2114 Relating to the Children's Justice Program (also known as the Children's Justice Centers of Hawaii).

Hearing Date, Time & Location: Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 2:00 PM via video conference, Conference Room 325 State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street

My name is Jenna Tomas from Friends of the Children's Justice Center of Oahu. We are in favor of SB 2114.

This Bill amends the Children's Justice Program's statute, HRS 588:

1) Definitions to include sexual exploitation, serious physical abuse, child witnesses to crime and child trafficking;

As a partner agency of the Children's Justice Centers, we work in collaboration to meet the special needs of children who are alleged victims of child abuse or witnesses to crime.

In closing, we are in strong support of SB 2114 and ask for your assistance in its passing during this legislative session.

Jenna Tomas, Executive Director Friends of the Children's Justice Center of Oahu (808) 445-1873 3019 Pali Hwy. Honolulu, HI 96817

<u>SB-2114</u> Submitted on: 3/15/2022 2:27:17 PM Testimony for JHA on 3/17/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dana Keawe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support SB2114