



**TESTIMONY OF  
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
KA 'OIHANA O KA LOIO KUHINA  
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2026**

---

**ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:**  
S.B. NO. 2845, RELATING TO HEALTH CARE.

**BEFORE THE:**  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

**DATE:** Monday, February 9, 2026                      **TIME:** 1:05 p.m.

**LOCATION:** State Capitol, Room 225

**TESTIFIER(S):** Anne E. Lopez, Attorney General, or  
Tricia M. Nakamatsu, Deputy Attorney General

---

Chair San Buenaventura and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General (Department) provides the following comments on this bill.

The purpose of this bill is to protect safe and unobstructed access to health care for patients and providers by prohibiting persons from interfering with another person's access to a health care facility and establishing civil and criminal penalties for violations.

Subsection (b) of the interference prohibition section (page 4, lines 7-8) provides: "This section shall not apply to actions taken as part of a labor demonstration or when exercising the right to strike." This provision may invite a challenge under the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and article I, section 4, of the Hawai'i Constitution, as it appears to make the ability to engage in the conduct described on page 3, line 4, to page 4, line 6, contingent on the message the person engaging in the conduct intends to convey. The Department recommends this subsection be deleted.

Subsection (b) of the criminal penalties section and subsection (d) of the civil remedies section (page 5, lines 4-10, and page 6, lines 9-15) instruct courts having jurisdiction over either a criminal or civil proceeding under the new chapter to "take all reasonably necessary steps to safeguard the individual privacy of an aggrieved party . . . including gra[n]ting protective orders and motions in limine." To preserve the First Amendment right of access to courts, with certain exceptions for specific kinds of proceedings, courts should not seal proceedings or documents absent case-specific

determinations finding that sealing is necessary. The bill's referenced subsections may be interpreted as requiring courts to grant protective orders and motions in limine without weighing privacy interests against the public's interest in access to court records. The Department recommends revising the referenced provisions to provide:

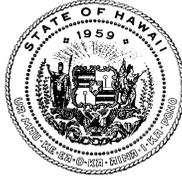
A court having jurisdiction in a [criminal or civil] proceeding under this chapter, upon motion by an interested party, shall take all reasonably necessary steps to safeguard the individual privacy of an aggrieved party and prevent harassment of a patient, health care provider, or health care facility employee who is a party or witness to a proceeding.

Subsection (a) of the civil remedies section (page 5, lines 16-18) indicates that a civil suit under this chapter may only be brought in the district court of the district in which the violation took place. Under section 604-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, district courts only have jurisdiction in civil actions where damages do not exceed \$40,000. If the Committee does not intend to limit claimants in civil suits brought under the new chapter to \$40,000 in damages, we recommend revising page 5, line 16, to read: "the circuit court of the circuit in which the violation took place . . . ."

Subsection (d) of the civil remedies section on page 6, line 9, refers to "[a] court having jurisdiction in a **criminal** proceeding under this chapter . . . ." It should provide: "A court having jurisdiction in a **civil** proceeding under this chapter . . . ." (Emphasis added.)

As a technical matter, the Department notes that section 2 states that the Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by adding a **new chapter** to title 19 (page 1, lines 14-17). However, the bill's internal section formatting suggests that it is instead being added within chapter 323 (hospitals and medical facilities), an existing chapter. This creates ambiguity as to the bill's intended statutory placement. If the Legislature intends to add a new part to chapter 323, rather than a new chapter, the bill should be revised accordingly, including changing references throughout the bill from "this chapter" to "this part."

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.



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

WRITTEN  
TESTIMONY ONLY

**Testimony COMMENTING on SB2845  
RELATING TO HEALTH CARE**

SENATOR JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Hearing Date, Time and Room Number: 02/09/2026, 1:05 pm, CR225

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Undetermined

2 **Department Position:** The Department of Health ("Department") offers comments on this  
3 measure.

4 **Department Testimony:** The Environmental Health Services Division, Indoor and Radiological  
5 Health Branch (IRHB) provides the following testimony on behalf of the Department.

6 The Department respectfully comments on this measure. On Page 3, line 14-16, this bill  
7 states that it shall be unlawful for any person to disrupt the normal functioning of a health care  
8 facility by "making or causing a noise that unreasonably disturbs the peace within the facility or  
9 that constitutes a violation of section 342F-30". The Department believes the reference to  
10 342F-30, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) may not be the most appropriate citation.

11 Chapter 342F, HRS defines "Excessive noise" as the presence of sound as measured by  
12 standard testing devices as established by the noise rules adopted by the department of a  
13 volume or in quantities and for durations which endangers human health, welfare or safety,  
14 animal life, or property or which unreasonably interferes with the comfortable enjoyment of  
15 life and property in the State or in such areas of the State as are affected thereby. Chapter 11-  
16 46, Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR) further defines "Excessive noise source" as any stationary

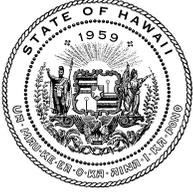
1 noise source; and any equipment related to agricultural, construction, and industrial activity  
2 which emits sound in excess of the maximum permissible sound levels specified in section 11-  
3 46-4, HAR as measured at any point at or beyond the property line. By these definitions,  
4 sources regulated by the Department are limited to equipment and activities which create  
5 noise that consistently disrupts daily public life, potentially leading to negative health effects.

6 The Department respectfully requests striking HRS §323- (a)(2) to remove the bill's  
7 provision referencing noise as it is duplicative of existing statute. Should the committee elect  
8 to keep HRS §323- (a)(2) in this measure, the Department requests replacing the reference to  
9 HRS §342F-30 with a reference to HRS §711-1101 (1)(b) and (2), which states that an individual  
10 who makes unreasonable noise or fails to heed the admonition of a police officer constitutes  
11 disorderly conduct. The Department believes reference to Chapter 711, HRS, for noise  
12 purposes may be more consistent with the intent of this bill.

13

14 **Offered Amendments:** None

15 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



**STATE HEALTH PLANNING  
AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH - KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO

**JOSH GREEN, MD**  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII  
KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII

**KENNETH S. FINK, MD, MGA, MPH**  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH  
KA LUNA HO'ŌKELE

**JOHN C. (JACK) LEWIN, MD**  
ADMINISTRATOR

February 13, 2026

**TO:** SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair  
Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Vice Chair  
Honorable Members

**FROM:** John C. (Jack) Lewin, MD, Administrator, SHPDA, and Sr. Advisor to  
Governor Josh Green, MD on Healthcare Innovation

**RE:** **SB 2845 -- RELATING TO HEALTH CARE**

**HEARING:** Friday, February 13, 2026 @ 1:00 pm; Conference Room 225

**POSITION:** SUPPORT with COMMENTS

---

Testimony:

SHPDA supports SB 2845 with comments.

This bill is intended to ensure that patients and health care providers can access health care services safely and without obstruction, intimidation, or harassment. The bill does this by prohibiting conduct that interferes with a person's ability to enter or leave a health care facility or that disrupts a facility's normal operations, and by establishing clear civil and criminal penalties to deter and address violations.

This bill would protect facilities providing abortion services from harassment, and would keep Hawaii's health care facilities secure, orderly, and responsive for anyone who needs care.

Thank you for hearing SB 2845

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

■ -- Jack Lewin, MD, Administrator, SHPDA



February 12, 2026

Position: **SUPPORT** of **SB2845**, Relating to Health Care

**To:** Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair  
Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

**From:** Llasmin Chaine, LSW, Executive Director, Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women

**Re:** Testimony in **SUPPORT** of **SB2845**, Relating to Health Care

Hearing: Friday, February 13, 2026, 1:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 225, State Capitol

The Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women is dedicated to advancing gender equity and ensuring that all individuals have safe and uninterrupted access to essential health care services. The Commission **supports SB2845** as it **addresses the growing need to protect patients, providers, and staff from interference and disruption at health care facilities, barriers that disproportionately impact women and gender-diverse individuals seeking timely care.**

By establishing clear prohibitions against obstructing access or disrupting operations at health care facilities, this **bill provides vital safeguards** for those who may already face social, economic, or logistical obstacles to receiving care. The measure **creates a comprehensive framework to deter harmful conduct and ensure accountability.** These measures align with best practices observed in other jurisdictions that have sought to protect patients' rights and promote public health.

SB2845 also recognizes the importance of empowering individuals and facilities to seek redress when harmed by interference. **Additional protections enabling individuals to access health care are needed and essential for wellbeing.** The bill's approach is balanced, focusing on preventing unlawful conduct without impinging on lawful protest or free expression.

The Commission appreciates the Legislature's commitment to protecting access to health care and **urges passage of SB2845.**

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony.



# Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus Commission



*Advocating for the Hawai'i LGBTQIA+ Community*

Mailing Address: LGBTQ+ Commission, c/o The Department of Human Services,  
P.O. Box 339, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96809-0339

Email: [hawaiistatelgbtqpluscommission@gmail.com](mailto:hawaiistatelgbtqpluscommission@gmail.com)  
Web: <https://humanservices.hawaii.gov/lgbtq-commission/>

February 5, 2026

Senate's Committee on Health & Human Services  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Hearing: Monday, February 9, 2026, at 1:05 PM

**RE: Strong Support for Senate Bill 2845**

Aloha Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair McKelvey and fellow committee members,

I am writing in strong support of Senate Bill 2845 on behalf of the Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus (LGBTQ+) Commission, which was established by the 2022 Hawai'i State Legislature to

“improve the State's interface with members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus community; identify the short- and long-range needs of its members; and ensure that there is an effective means of researching, planning, and advocating for the equity of this population in all aspects of state government.”

The Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission strongly supports Senate Bill 2845, which would prohibit interference with a person's access to or from a health care facility, protect the normal functioning of health care facilities, establish meaningful enforcement mechanisms, and authorize both private and state action when harm occurs.

Access to health care is a fundamental right. No individual should be harassed, obstructed, intimidated, or endangered when seeking medical care, nor should health care providers and staff be subjected to disruption or threats while delivering essential services. Senate Bill 2845 affirms this principle by ensuring that health care facilities remain safe, accessible, and operational for all who rely on them.

This bill is particularly important for [māhū, LGBTQIA+, and QTPI+](#) individuals, who already face disproportionate barriers to care, including stigma, discrimination, and fear of harassment. For transgender, nonbinary, māhū, QTPI+ and gender-diverse people, especially those seeking gender-affirming care, interference at health care facilities is not hypothetical; it is a documented and growing concern nationwide. Such interference can deter people from seeking medically necessary care, worsen health outcomes, and undermine trust in the health care system.

*Proudly established pursuant to Hawai'i Revised Statutes Chapter 369, as enacted through Act 41, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2022*

## HI State LGBTQ+ Commission Testimony in Support of SB 2845

Senate Bill 2845 appropriately balances the protection of lawful expression with the need to safeguard public health and safety. It does not prohibit free speech or peaceful protest; rather, it draws a clear and necessary line against conduct that interferes with access to care, disrupts medical services, or causes harm to patients and providers. By classifying violations as a petty misdemeanor, creating a private right of action, and authorizing the Attorney General to seek injunctive or equitable relief, the bill provides a comprehensive and enforceable framework to prevent harm before it escalates.

The Commission strongly believes that Hawai'i must remain a place where everyone regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression can access health care with dignity, safety, and respect. Senate Bill 2845 sends a clear message that intimidation and obstruction have no place in our health care system.

For these reasons, the Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission urges your strong support of Senate Bill 2845.

If you or any member of your staff has any questions regarding my testimony you can reach me at [hawaiistatelgbtqpluscommission@gmail.com](mailto:hawaiistatelgbtqpluscommission@gmail.com).

Mahalo nui loa for your time and consideration,

Sandy Harjo Livingston (he/him/they/them)

Chair

[Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission](#)



**HA‘AHEO, ‘OHANA, KAULIKE, UI**  
Pride Family Justice Activate  
**WHERE PRIDE BECOMES POLITICAL POWER**

Website: [www.hokupac.org](http://www.hokupac.org) ♦ Email: [info@hokupac.org](mailto:info@hokupac.org)

February 5, 2026

Senate’s Committee on Health & Human Services  
Hawai‘i State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Hearing: Monday, February 9, 2026 at 1:05 PM

**RE: STRONG SUPPORT for Senate Bill 2845 – Relating to RELATING TO HEALTH CARE**

Aloha Chair San Buenaventura, Vice-Chair McKelevy and fellow committee members,

This testimony on behalf of **HOKU PAC**, Hawai‘i’s LGBTQ+ political action committee dedicated to building queer political power and advancing policies that protect our communities. We write in **strong support of Senate Bill 2845**.

HOKU PAC offers strong support for Senate Bill 2845, which protects individuals’ access to health care facilities, safeguards the uninterrupted delivery of medical services, and establishes clear legal remedies when interference causes harm.

At its core, Senate Bill 2845 is a civil rights and public safety measure. No person should be obstructed, harassed, or intimidated when seeking medical care, and no health care provider or facility should be prevented from carrying out its lawful purpose. Interference with access to health care undermines personal autonomy, erodes public trust, and places vulnerable individuals at heightened risk.

For the māhū and LGBTQIA+ community, the consequences of interference are especially severe. LGBTQIA+ people—particularly māhū, transgender, and gender non-conforming individuals—already face systemic barriers to care. Efforts to block access to health care facilities, disrupt services, or intimidate patients and providers compound these inequities and send a dangerous message about who is deemed worthy of care and protection.

Senate Bill 2845 strikes an appropriate and constitutional balance. It does not restrict peaceful assembly or free expression. Instead, it draws a clear line against conduct that interferes with access to health care or disrupts the functioning of medical facilities. By establishing violations as a petty misdemeanor, creating a private right of action, and authorizing the Attorney General to seek injunctive and equitable relief, the bill ensures accountability while prioritizing prevention and safety.

HOKU PAC believes Hawai‘i must remain a place where health care decisions are made between patients and providers—not dictated by harassment, obstruction, or fear. Protecting access to health care is essential to bodily autonomy, community well-being, and the values of dignity and equality that our state strives to uphold.

For these reasons, HOKU PAC respectfully urges your strong support for Senate Bill 2845.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

*Paid for by HOKU PAC – Not Authorized by any Candidate or Candidate Committee*



February 5, 2026

Senate's Committee on Health and Human Services  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Hearing: Monday, February 9, 2026 at 1:05 PM

RE: **STRONG SUPPRT for Senate Bill 2845**

Aloha Chair San Buenaventura, Vice-Chair McKelvey and fellow committee members,

Pride at Work – Hawai'i is an official chapter of [Pride at Work](#) which is a national nonprofit organization that represents LGBTQIA+ union members and their allies. We are an officially recognized constituency group of the AFL-CIO that organizes mutual support between the organized Labor Movement and the LGBTQIA+ Community to further social and economic justice. We write in **strong support of Senate Bill 2845**.

Pride at Work – Hawai'i strongly supports Senate Bill 2845, which protects access to health care facilities, ensures the uninterrupted delivery of medical services, and establishes clear accountability when interference causes harm.

As an organization representing mähū, and LGBTQIA+ workers and our allies across Hawai'i, we approach this bill through the lens of worker safety, patient dignity, and the right of all people to access health care without fear or obstruction. Health care workers, many of whom are union members and frontline essential workers, deserve workplaces free from harassment, intimidation, and disruption. Patients deserve the same respect and security when seeking care.

Interference with health care facilities places workers and patients at risk. When entrances are blocked, services are disrupted, or staff are harassed, it is not an abstract political statement—it is a workplace safety issue and a public health concern. These actions can delay care, escalate conflict, and force workers into unsafe situations that should never be part of their job.

For mähū, and LGBTQIA+ workers and patients, the stakes are even higher. Mähū and LGBTQIA+ individuals already experience barriers to health care access and are overrepresented in frontline health care roles. When interference targets facilities that provide reproductive, sexual, or gender-affirming care, it compounds discrimination and creates a chilling effect that discourages both patients from seeking care and workers from remaining in these critical roles.

Senate Bill 2845 takes a reasonable and necessary approach. It preserves the right to lawful expression while clearly prohibiting conduct that interferes with access to care or disrupts the normal functioning of health care facilities. By establishing a private right of action and empowering the Attorney General to seek injunctive relief, the bill ensures that affected

Pride at Work – Hawai'i's Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of Re: SB 2845

individuals, workers, and facilities have real tools to prevent harm and respond when violations occur.

A strong health care system depends on safe workplaces and unfettered access to care. Pride at Work – Hawai'i believes this bill is essential to protecting both.

For these reasons, Pride at Work – Hawai'i urges the Committee to pass Senate Bill 2845.

Mahalo for your consideration and your commitment to the health and safety of Hawai'i's workers and communities.

In Solidarity,

Michael Golojuch, Jr. (he/him)

President

[Pride at Work – Hawai'i](#)



**February 9, 2026 at 1:05 pm**  
**Conference Room 225**

**Senate Committee on Health and Human Services**

To: Chair Joy A. San Buenaventura  
Vice Chair Angus L.K. McKelvey

From: Paige Heckathorn Choy  
Vice President, Government Affairs  
Healthcare Association of Hawaii

Re: **Testimony in Support**  
**SB 2845, Relating to Health Care**

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH), established in 1939, serves as the leading voice of healthcare on behalf of 170 member organizations who represent almost every aspect of the health care continuum in Hawaii. Members include acute care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies, hospices, assisted living facilities and durable medical equipment suppliers. In addition to providing access to appropriate, affordable, high-quality care to all of Hawaii's residents, our members contribute significantly to Hawaii's economy by employing over 30,000 people statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to **support** this measure, which creates a new state law that makes it illegal to interfere with access to health care facilities or disrupt their normal operations. We appreciate the intent, which is to ensure that patients, providers, and staff can enter, leave, and operate health care facilities without obstruction, intimidation, harassment, or threats.

Hospitals, clinics, and other care settings must be places where patients, families, and health care professionals can safely enter, deliver, and receive care without fear of obstruction, intimidation, or disruption. This measure helps reinforce that fundamental principle by establishing clear protections for safe and unobstructed access to health care facilities. We appreciate the legislature's continued commitment to protecting access to health care services across Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this measure.



**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services  
Monday, February 9, 2026; 1:05 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 225  
Via Videoconference**

**RE: SENATE BILL NO. 2845, RELATING TO HEALTH CARE.**

Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair McKelvey, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA) is a 501(c)(3) organization established to advocate for, expand access to, and sustain high quality care through the statewide network of Community Health Centers throughout the State of Hawaii. The HPCA **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill No. 2845, RELATING TO HEALTH CARE.

By way of background, the HPCA represents Hawaii's Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). FQHCs provide desperately needed medical services at the frontlines to over 150,000 patients each year who live in rural and underserved communities. Long considered champions for creating a more sustainable, integrated, and wellness-oriented system of health, FQHCs provide a more efficient, more effective and more comprehensive system of healthcare.

This bill, as received by your Committee, would protect safe and unobstructed access to health care for patients and their providers by prohibiting persons from interfering with another person's access to a health care facility and establishing civil and criminal penalties for violations.

This measure would take effect upon its approval.

The HPCA notes that the companion to this measure, House Bill No. 1961, is scheduled for hearing by the House Committee on Health on February 6, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., in State Capitol, Conference Room 329.

As employers, FQHCs have an obligation to ensure the health, welfare, and safety of their employees, contractors, volunteers, patients, and patients' friends and family who accompany or visit patients at FQHC facilities. To the extent that this measure serves as a deterrent to violence perpetrated against health care workers, HPCA wholeheartedly supports this effort.

**Testimony on Senate Bill No. 2845**  
**Monday, February 9, 2026; 1:05 p.m.**  
**Page 2**

Yet, it should also be noted that when violence is committed against a health care professional, especially when it occurs at a health care facility, a crime is committed not only against the individual, but against all of society. When persons go to a health care professional, it is when that person is most vulnerable -- he or she is sick, or injured, or stressed from concern over a loved one. These places have long been held as sanctuary. During war, hospitals were marked on their rooftops with red crosses so that they would not be bombed.

Violence committed against a health care professional or at a health care facility causes sick or injured persons to hesitate before seeking help, which might exacerbate their condition. It also dissuades persons from entering the field of health care. At a time when Hawaii is facing unprecedented shortages in physicians, nurses, specialists, and other health care professionals, especially in rural areas, incidents of violence against health care professionals or at health care facilities may likely cause youths to consider other fields for future employment.

**For this reason, the HPCA urges your favorable consideration of this measure.**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Public Affairs and Policy Director Erik K. Abe at 536-8442, or [eabe@hawaiiipca.net](mailto:eabe@hawaiiipca.net).



## Protect Democracy Move Forward

[www.indivisiblehawaii.org](http://www.indivisiblehawaii.org)

[info@indivisiblehawaii.org](mailto:info@indivisiblehawaii.org)

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Hearing Date/Time: Monday, February 9, 2026 at 1:05 PM  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 225  
**Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of SB 2845**

Dear Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair, Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Vice Chair and the Members of Committee,

Members of Indivisible Hawai'i thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 2845

Protesters continue to harass patients and providers at Planned Parenthood health centers, especially in Honolulu. Protesters lean on patients' and providers' cars, yell slurs, and stand in front of patient vehicles to prevent safe access entering and exiting the clinic.

Hawai'i needs a bill to provide the police more tools to intervene in situations like this. Given the extreme and growing polarization of our times, we cannot assume this kind of behavior will remain limited to a single Planned Parenthood clinic.

We strongly support this bill included in the Women's Legislative Caucus package that will make it unlawful for a person to interfere with access to a health care facility, including prohibiting physical obstruction, disturbing the peace, trespassing, telephoning a clinic repeatedly, or threatening administrative staff, providers, and patients. Fundamentally, patients and providers should not be afraid of being harassed for accessing or providing legal health care services.

Sincerely,  
Indivisible Hawai'i Healthcare Team

*The mission of the 14-chapter Indivisible Hawai'i Statewide Network (IHSN) is to protect Hawai'i and democracy by defending civil rights, communities and values, most importantly, Hawai'i's Constitutionally protected spirit of Aloha. In October 2025, IHSN with other partners turned out over 22,000 residents on all major islands to say No Dictators! and to stand up for democracy. This call-to-action was part of Indivisible national's mobilization of more than 7 million across the country as the voice of the people, committed to election integrity and to evolving as a place of equity, opportunity and peace.*



To: Hawaii State Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

RE: Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of SB2845 Relating to Health Care

Dear Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair McKelvey, and members of the Committee,

The members of AAUW of Hawai'i thank you for hearing this measure. We strongly support SB2845 which would prohibit persons from interfering with another person's access to or from a health care facility or disrupting the normal functioning of a health care facility.

Protesters continue to harass patients and providers at Planned Parenthood health centers, especially in Honolulu. Protesters lean on patients' and providers' cars, yell slurs, and stand in front of patient vehicles to prevent safe access entering and exiting the clinic. Hawai'i needs a bill to provide the police more tools to intervene in situations like this.

Please pass this measure so the patients can get the health care they need and the providers can provide the health care their patients need.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Younghee Overly  
AAUW of Hawai'i Public Policy Committee

*The American Association of University Women (AAUW) of Hawai'i is an all-volunteer, statewide chapter of a national organization with close to 4000 members and supporters across all four counties - Hawai'i, Honolulu, Kaua'i, and Maui. AAUW has state chapters in all 50 states and our mission is to advance gender equity through education and advocacy. Economic security for women is our goal.*



## STONEWALL CAUCUS OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII

### TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB2845

#### Relating to Health Care – Interference with Health Care Facilities

##### **To the Honorable Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:**

On behalf of the Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, we submit this testimony in **strong support** of SB2845.

SB2845 is a vital measure to protect the safety, dignity, and constitutional rights of patients, health care providers, and staff by ensuring unobstructed access to health care facilities throughout our state. No individual should be forced to endure harassment, intimidation, threats, or physical obstruction when seeking or providing medical care.

For many in our community, particularly LGBTQ+ individuals, women, immigrants, people with disabilities, and those seeking reproductive or gender-affirming care, accessing health care already presents significant barriers. Acts of interference and harassment compound these challenges and create unsafe environments that undermine both physical and mental health.

SB2845 establishes clear and reasonable standards to prevent:

- Physical obstruction of clinic entrances and exits,
- Disruptive and intimidating conduct,
- Harassment through repeated communications, and
- Threats against patients, providers, and facilities.

By creating meaningful criminal penalties and civil remedies, this bill sends a strong message that Hawai'i will not tolerate conduct that endangers public health or interferes with medical services.

Importantly, SB2845 carefully balances public safety with constitutional protections by preserving lawful labor demonstrations and respecting lawful expression. The bill targets harmful conduct, not speech, ensuring that legitimate advocacy remains protected while patients and providers are shielded from abuse.

The Stonewall Caucus recognizes that safe access to health care is a cornerstone of equity and justice. When people are denied safe entry to clinics, their autonomy, privacy, and well-being are compromised. This is especially harmful to marginalized communities who already face disproportionate health disparities.

By enacting SB2845, the Legislature affirms Hawai'i's commitment to compassion, safety, and human dignity. The bill strengthens our state's role as a leader in protecting health care access and reinforces our shared responsibility to care for one another.

## Testimony in Strong Support of SB2845

For these reasons, the Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i respectfully urges the Committee to pass SB2845.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit this testimony and for your continued dedication to the health and safety of our communities.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Abby Simmons (she/her)  
Chair  
Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i



February 8, 2026

Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair  
Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Vice Chair  
Committee on Health and Human Services

**Re: S.B. 2845 Relating to Health Care**

**Hearing: Monday, February 9, 2026, 1:05 PM, Conference Room 225 & Videoconference**

Dear Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair McKelvey, and the Members of the Committee on Health and Human Services:

Hawaii Women Lawyers is a lawyer's trade organization that aims to improve the lives and careers of women in all aspects of the legal profession, influence the future of the legal profession, and enhance the status of women and promote equal opportunities for all.

**Hawaii Women Lawyers submits testimony in strong support of S.B. 2845 Relating to Health Care.**

We strongly concur with the Legislature that safe access to health care services is vital for the health and safety of all persons in Hawaii. Individuals seeking or providing health care should be able to access health care facilities without fear of intimidation and harassment.

Hawaii is already geographically challenging in terms of providing care across many population sectors. It is therefore absolutely critical that we ensure safe and unobstructed access to health care for patients and their providers regardless of their race, age, condition, or socioeconomic status. This is especially true for those healthcare facilities that provide critical services in support of reproductive rights, including Planned Parenthood and independent clinics.

Hawaii Women Lawyers commends and thanks the Legislature for both prioritizing both patients' rights to a safe environment and affirming medical professionals' ability to do their important work without interference or intimidation.

**For the above reasons, we strongly support S.B. 2845 Relating to Health Care and respectfully request that the Committee pass this measure.**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this measure

# VISIBILITY BRIGADE HONOLULU Rush Hour Resistance

Written Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 2845

Aloha Respected Committee Members,

My name is Ben Lessard and I am one of the leads of Visibility Brigade Honolulu. My group members and I request that you support SB 2845. This bill is an extremely important protection for patients and healthcare employees alike. Safe access to healthcare facilities should be a right afforded to all the people of Hawai'i. At this time in history it is imperative that our elected representatives provide protections to the people that they represent, as we the people are desperately seeking protections for those who are the most vulnerable among us.

SB 2845 puts up a barrier to discourage bad behavior from people who would want to do harm to another by preventing them access to healthcare. This bill provides the ability for consequences to be given to anyone wanting to disrupt the normal functioning of a health care facility. This type of behavior shows no aloha and should not be allowed in the State of Hawai'i. Let us not put security personnel, medical staff, patients nor patrons at risk unnecessarily. Please vote to support SB 2845 to prevent harassment at healthcare facilities in the State of Hawai'i.

Thank you for continuing to promote equality for all people with your vote.

Ben Lessard

Visibility Brigade Honolulu

visibilitybrigadehonolulu@gmail.com

#VISIBILITYBRIGADE  
HONOLULU



Written Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 2845

Aloha Distinguished Committee Members,

My name is Tara Nash and I am the lead of Indivisible Leeward Oahu. My members and I humbly request that you support SB2845 to ensure that access to healthcare in the state of Hawai'i is protected. This will prohibit interference with patients or staff at any healthcare facility, establishing penalties and a private right of action for violations. This protects patient access to critical medical services that in some cases may save a life. Hawai'i is a diverse state and the needs here are many, to include but not limited to: medical, reproductive health, mental health and emergency care. All persons should be allowed access without fear, intimidation or physical obstruction. Without this legislative protection, there is no recourse for patients or hospital staff. Behaviors that can cause undue harm to a person medically should be prevented. Victims should also be able to have some form of recourse and this measure aligns with maintaining public order.

SB 2845 protects healthcare facilities against disruptive behaviors that would interfere with a patient's ability to safely and effectively enter for treatment. SB2845 will act as a deterrent against those who desire to prevent persons from receiving healthcare and will help ease the fears of both patrons and staff of these healthcare facilities. We humbly ask this elected body to protect all Hawai'i residents and vote in support of SB2845.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Tara Nash

Indivisible Leeward Oahu

[indivisibleleewardoahu@gmail.com](mailto:indivisibleleewardoahu@gmail.com)



To: Senate Committee on Health

Hearing Date/Time: Friday, February 13, 2026 at 1pm

Place: Hawai'i State Capitol, Rm. 225 and videoconference

Re: Testimony of Planned Parenthood Alliance Advocates – Hawai'i in strong support of SB 2856

Planned Parenthood Alliance Advocates – Hawai'i stands in strong support of SB 2845, a bill that will prevent protesters and harassers from disrupting access to health facilities, including by physically obstructing entrances or exits or threatening to inflict injury on the patients, providers, administrators, or property. PPAA also requests a technical amendment to avoid duplication and confusion in statute.

Patients and providers should not be afraid of being harassed for accessing or providing legal health care services. Yet, incidents of vandalism, assault and battery, threats of harm or death threats, stalking, and harassment targeting abortion and gender affirming health centers, providers, and patients have continuously increased over the past several decades, including the targeted murder of individual abortion providers.

Medical care should be a personal decision determined by a patient and their provider, not dictated by violent actors and harassment. Yet at the Honolulu Planned Parenthood, protesters consistently block the entrance and exit of the health center – protesters lean on patients' and providers' cars, yell slurs, and stand in front of vehicles to prevent access to the clinic.

Unfortunately, examples like this are all too common for abortion and gender affirming care providers nationwide, and Planned Parenthood understands firsthand how protester harassment can escalate into violence. Between 2023 and 2024 alone, the National Abortion Federation recorded 3,582 instances of harassments, 169 acts of vandalism, 621 instances of trespassing, 269 death threats, and 12 bomb threats at abortion health centers. Hawai'i needs a bill to allow the police to interfere and stop this violence.

As more clinics have been forced to close across the country due to harmful state abortion bans post-Dobbs and gender affirming care bans, much of the violence and disruption is now targeted towards health centers in "protective states" like Hawai'i. Under the Trump Administration, political attacks on abortion and gender affirming care nationwide are only growing, which is spurring on even more violence. Anti-abortion and anti-trans activists and politicians are not stopping at banning abortion or gender affirming care at the state level - they are coming after Hawai'i patients and providers too.

Thankfully, this bill is more protective than federal standards and applies to all health facilities in Hawai'i, not just abortion and gender affirming care providers. In the last decade, we have seen protesters going after COVID and other vaccines, PrEP & PEP medications, substance abuse services, or any number hot-button health services. One straightforward way to protect providers and patients for all types of health care is by prohibiting interference with health care facilities, which allows law enforcement to ensure patients can access care without facing violence and allows providers to do their jobs without facing constant threats.

In SB 2845, PPAA requests a technical amendment to avoid duplication and confusion in Hawai'i statute. Because state statute already contains an existing "excessive noise" prohibition (Haw. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 342F-30) and a trespass statute (Haw. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 708-815), PPAA requests that lawmakers amend HB 1961 to remove the bill's provisions related to noise and trespass (i.e. remove Sec. 323(a)(2) and Sec. 323(a)(3), located on pp. 3-4).

Lawmakers should continue to lead on sexual and reproductive health by taking steps here in Hawai'i to protect our patients and our providers. Hawai'i needs these civil and criminal penalties as a tool for enforcement, protecting access to critical health care services. PPAA urges you to vote yes on SB 2845 and pass this important bill out of committee.

*American College of  
Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
District VIII, Hawai'i (Guam &  
American Samoa) Section*



TO: Committee on Health and Human Services  
Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair  
Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Vice Chair

DATE: Friday, February 13, 2026

PLACE: Hawaii State Capitol, Room 225

FROM: Hawai'i Section, ACOG  
Dr. Tiffinie R. Mercado, MD, FACOG, Chair  
Dr. Ricardo A. Molerio Bravo, MD, FACOG, Legislative Chair

**Re:SB2845 Relating to Healthcare: Health Care Facilities; Interference; Disruption; Petty Misdemeanor; Private Right of Action; Civil Remedies; Criminal Penalties; Attorney General**

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and honorable Committee Members,

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Hawai'i Section (ACOG Hawai'i), which represents physicians dedicated to providing safe, accessible, and evidence-based reproductive health care across our state, respectfully expresses our strong support for SB2845.

Abortion care is a routine and essential component of full-spectrum obstetric and gynecologic practice. It is grounded in the same evidence-based principles that guide prenatal care, miscarriage management, and treatment of pregnancy-related complications. Yet despite its medical legitimacy, abortion care remains uniquely stigmatized. For decades, patients seeking care have encountered protestors outside of health care facilities who use aggressive language, graphic signage, and targeted confrontation intended to shame or dissuade them. These encounters do not occur in a vacuum — they can heighten emotional distress, delay time-sensitive medical care, and create confusion through the dissemination of medically inaccurate or misleading information.

Importantly, the impact of these demonstrations is not limited to patients alone. Health care workers — physicians, nurses, medical assistants, social workers, and administrative staff — are also routinely subjected to intimidation, verbal harassment, filming without consent, and threats as they enter and exit their workplaces. This contributes to a climate of fear and burnout within a workforce already experiencing critical shortages. History has demonstrated that rhetoric and intimidation around reproductive health can escalate into violence. The 2009 assassination of Dr. George Tiller, an obstetrician-gynecologist who provided abortion care in Kansas, remains a sobering reminder that threats directed at clinicians are not theoretical concerns but real risks with devastating consequences. While Hawai'i has long been a place that values compassion and mutual respect, we cannot assume immunity from the broader national climate of hostility directed at reproductive health providers.

Legislation such as SB2845 is not about restricting speech or limiting peaceful expression. Rather, it is about establishing reasonable boundaries that protect the safety, privacy, and dignity of patients and the health care professionals who serve them. No individual seeking medical care — whether for prenatal services, miscarriage management, contraception, or abortion — should have to navigate harassment, misinformation, or intimidation at the doors of a health facility. Likewise, no clinician or staff member should fear for their personal safety simply for providing lawful, evidence-based medical care.

Health care decisions, particularly those involving pregnancy and bodily autonomy, are deeply personal and often time sensitive. They deserve to be made in consultation with qualified medical professionals in environments that

are calm, confidential, and free from coercion. We trust our patients to make the decisions that are right for their lives and families, and we have an ethical obligation to ensure that when they entrust us with their care, they can do so in settings that are safe, supportive, and respectful.

Hawai'i section ACOG agrees with proposed amendments by Planned Parenthood.

“PPAA requests a technical amendment to avoid duplication and confusion in Hawai'i statute. Because state statute already contains an existing “excessive noise” prohibition (Haw. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 342F-30) and a trespass statute (Haw. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 708-815), PPAA requests that lawmakers amend HB 1961 to remove the bill's provisions related to noise and trespass (i.e. remove Sec. 323(a)(2) and Sec. 323(a)(3), located on pp. 3-4).”

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony and for your continued commitment to advancing equitable, evidence-based health care for the people of Hawai'i.

Respectfully submitted,

American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
Hawai'i Section (ACOG Hawai'i)

## **In Support of SB 2845: Relating to Health Care**

Aloha Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair McKelvey and Committee Members from the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services,

The Hawai'i Nurses' Association (HNA) appreciates the opportunity to submit comments on SB2845, Relating to Health Care.

HNA supports the intent of SB2845 to protect community members' rights to access sexual and gender-affirming health care, including abortion and other forms of birth control and family-planning services. However, we have serious reservations about the bill's language, which could be used to further criminalize community members exercising their First Amendment rights.

In September and October 2024, Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women and Children, a health care facility under Hawai'i Pacific Health, indefinitely locked out more than 600 local registered nurses in an attempt to force them to accept a collective bargaining agreement. In protest of this lockout—which harmed nurses, their families, and our patients, including Hawai'i's keiki—ten courageous community supporters engaged in an act of civil disobedience by blocking replacement nurses from entering the facility. This action helped bring hospital administration back to the bargaining table and led to a settlement that delivered the first contractually enforceable nurse-to-patient ratios for the people of Hawai'i.

Civil disobedience, such as that undertaken by the Kapi'olani 10, has a long and heroic history in the struggle for justice and equality in the United States and around the world. While SB2845 states that it “shall not apply to actions taken as part of a labor demonstration or when exercising the right to strike,” this language is too vague regarding who may be considered to be participating in a labor demonstration. Further criminalization of citizens engaged in First Amendment activity runs counter to the values of our union and our Constitution.

To address this concern, we propose the following amendment:

“(b) This section shall not apply to actions taken as part of a labor demonstration or when exercising the right to strike, including actions taken by both workers and supporters of such demonstrations or strikes.”

Sincerely,

*Rosalee Agas-Yuu*

Rosalee Agas-Yuu

President

Hawai'i Nurses' Association, OPEIU Local 50







**Submitted Online: February 12, 2026**

**TO:** Senate Committee on Health & Human Services  
Senator Joy San Buenaventura, Chair  
Senator Angus McKelvey, Vice Chair

**FROM:** Eva Andrade, President

**RE:** Opposition to SB 2845 Relating to Health

Hawai‘i Family Forum is a non-profit, non-partisan educational organization committed to preserving and strengthening families in Hawai‘i. We work to educate citizens on public policy issues that affect life, family, and fundamental freedoms, and we encourage thoughtful civic engagement rooted in respect and aloha.

**Hawai‘i Family Forum respectfully submits testimony in opposition to SB 2845.**

At the outset, we want to be clear: no one should be threatened, intimidated, or physically blocked from accessing health care. Violence and true obstruction are not acceptable, and existing Hawai‘i law already prohibits that behavior.

Our concern is that SB 2845 goes far beyond addressing those legitimate issues and instead creates a new, sweeping set of penalties that could unintentionally impact peaceful, lawful activity.

The bill uses very broad language to describe what it means to “interfere” with a health care facility or to “disrupt” its operations. Those terms are not clearly defined. As a result, everyday activities that are currently lawful—such as quiet protest, prayer, holding signs, or speaking with someone outside a facility—could be interpreted as violations, even when no one is blocked, threatened, or harmed.

This matters because the bill does more than set boundaries—it attaches mandatory criminal penalties, including jail time, even for a first offense. That is a serious consequence for conduct that may be nonviolent and non-obstructive, depending on how it is interpreted and enforced.

In addition, SB 2845 allows health care facilities to bring civil lawsuits without having to show actual harm and allows recovery of attorney’s fees. This creates a strong deterrent effect and may discourage people from exercising their right to peaceful expression simply out of fear of legal consequences.



We are also concerned that the bill treats certain types of demonstrations differently than others. Public policy should be even-handed and protect fundamental freedoms across the board, regardless of the issue or viewpoint being expressed.

Finally, we question whether this bill is necessary. Hawai'i already has laws addressing trespass, harassment, threats, noise, and obstruction. Before creating a new chapter of law with enhanced penalties, the Legislature should clearly identify what problem is not already being addressed.

In our view, this bill is not well balanced. It risks limiting lawful civic engagement in an effort to solve problems that existing law already covers.

Hawai'i can protect access to health care while also respecting free speech, religious expression, and peaceful assembly. SB 2845, as drafted, does not strike that balance.

For these reasons, Hawai'i Family Forum respectfully urges the Committee to defer SB 2845.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony and for your thoughtful consideration.

February 10th, 2026

**Position:** Support of SB2845

**To:** Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate, Committee on Health and Human Services

**From:** Marnessa Rea, University Student

**Re:** Testimony in Support of SB2845, Health Care Facilities; Interference; Disruption; Petty Misdemeanor;  
Private Right of Action; Civil Remedies; Criminal Penalties; Attorney General

Hearing: Friday, February 13, 2026  
1:00pm  
Conference Room 225, State Capitol

I would like to thank the committee for hearing this important bill. I would like to express my strong support of SB2845, which ensures there is not only safe and unobstructed access to health care facilities, patients, and providers, but also ensures offenders of criminal violations will be held accountable for their misdemeanors.

This important measure ensures Hawaii's healthcare system remains accessible to those who seek care. Patient well being will improve and confidence in healthcare facilities will be strengthened as a result of SB2845's provisions.

Disruptions and harassment at health care facilities can create barriers to care, increase anxiety among patients, and undermine the ability of providers to deliver timely and effective services. These impacts are especially acute for women and marginalized communities, who may already face heightened obstacles in accessing care.

I respectfully urge this Committee to pass SB2845, which would aid in promoting a safe environment for citizens in need of reproductive and other health services, as it is a fundamental right to access healthcare without fear or intimidation.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony.

---

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 11:42:18 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Lopez	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

**To: Chair Buenaventura, Vice-Chair Mckelvey, and Members of the Committee on Health and Human Services**

**From: Michael Lopez**

**Subject: Testimony in Support of SB2845**

**Dear Chair Buenaventura , Vice Chair McKelvey, and Members of the Committee**

**My name is Michael Lopez and I am a student in the UH Mānoa Bachelor of Social Work program. I am here for support of Bill SB2845.**

**SB2845 protects access to healthcare by prohibiting intentional or reckless interference with healthcare facilities, including blocking entrances, making disruptive noise, trespassing, or threatening patients and staff. It establishes consequences for repeat offenses and allows individuals and facilities to seek legal relief for harm caused, while still preserving the right to lawful labor demonstrations and strikes.**

**During my time as a social services intern in a skilled nursing facility, I have witnessed how vulnerable residents can be affected by disruptions in care. Many of the residents I work with are older adults or living with disabilities as they rely on a calm, stable, and secure environment. Even brief disruptions can cause fear, confusion, heightened anxiety, or delays in essential services. When healthcare is obstructed, they directly impact individuals who depend on consistent and uninterrupted care for their health and well-being.**

**I appreciate that SB2845 recognizes that harm is not always financial. Emotional distress, fear, and interruptions to care are real harms that deserve accountability. At the same time, the bill thoughtfully protects lawful labor demonstrations and strikes while prioritizing patient safety and access to care.**

**In closing, SB2845 helps ensure that healthcare facilities remain places of dignity, safety, and respect for both patients and staff. I respectfully urge for your support.**

**Sincerely,**

**Michael Lopez**

**University of Hawaii at Manoa**

**Thompson School of Social Work**

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/5/2026 6:03:37 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Taurie Kinoshita	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the Honorable Committee,

I am writing in strong support of SB2845.

People must have access to healthcare, and individuals seeking to stop or interfere with healthcare access must be held accountable. Interfering with healthcare access is tantamount to physical abuse because you are stopping someone from getting the physical help they need.

Please pass SB2845.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Taurie Kinoshita

lifelong resident and voter!

taurie.bricks@gmail.com

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/5/2026 6:27:32 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lauren Faue	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**\*\*Support\*\***

My name is Lauren Faue. I am a resident of Honolulu, a student social worker, and an advocate for the safety and advancement of women. SB2845 directly addresses barriers that disproportionately impact women and gender minorities seeking reproductive and other health care services. Protecting access to health care facilities is fundamental to upholding the rights and well-being of Hawai'i residents.

SB2845 proposes to prohibit interference and disruption at health care facilities, establishing both criminal and civil remedies for violations. Interference with facility access can have serious consequences for patients, providers, and the broader community, including heightened stress, delayed care, and threats to personal safety. By creating clear penalties and legal recourse, this measure aligns with best practices for safeguarding public health and supporting those who may be most vulnerable to harassment or obstruction.

The bill's provision for a private right of action empowers individuals and facilities to seek remedies when harmed, which is an important tool for accountability. Authorizing the Attorney General to pursue injunctive or equitable relief further strengthens enforcement and ensures that systemic or repeated violations can be addressed effectively. These mechanisms collectively support safe, equitable access to health care.

I respectfully encourage the Legislature to advance SB2845. I request provision that ensure that implementation guidance is clear and accessible to both health care providers and the public, and that any future rulemaking includes input from impacted communities. This approach will help maximize the bill's positive impact while safeguarding the rights of all parties.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/5/2026 9:24:30 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cynthia J. Goto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/5/2026 9:26:14 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Micaela	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Members of the committee,

My name is Micaela and I am a Honolulu resident, an abortion advocate and a community organizer for Planned Parenthood here in Hawai`i. I am asking that you please support SB2845, as it is imperative that the patients, staff and supporters of planned parenthood have safe entry and exit to our health center. I have seen and experienced countless examples of harassment, endangerment of the community and intimidation by the protestors that frequent the sidewalk in front of the Beretania Health Center. I personally have felt the intense discomfort and harmful environment these individuals create, and having clear guidelines on how we can all safely exist within this community. Please support this bill.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/6/2026 6:40:33 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shanda Brack	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Shanda Brack, and I am testifying in strong support of SB2845 as both a nurse practitioner and as someone who has personally relied on Hawai'i's health care system as a patient.

I know what it feels like to be in a vulnerable position seeking medical care, and I know how important it is to be able to walk into a clinic or hospital focused on your health — not on whether you will be confronted, delayed, or made to feel unsafe. That sense of safety is not abstract; it directly affects whether people seek care at all. People outside a clinic have literally NO IDEA what health problems someone might have walking in the door. I picture accompanying my pregnant niece to an appointment because she has noticed pain or bleeding. She's frightened for her baby. If she encounters a crowd blocking the door, scolding or yelling at her, or attempting to prevent her from entering the clinic, this will lead to more stress on her and the baby. She may choose to delay care and come back another time. Could that be a reason she loses her baby?

As a nurse practitioner, I have seen how even small disruptions can have serious consequences for patients and health care teams. I can think of a patient who told me she used to be afraid to come into the clinic because she was worried about who would see her come in and feared being judged. She has a complicated list of medical conditions and there is a very real possibility that delay of care could lead to hospitalization or death for her.

SB2845 provides important protections by prohibiting interference with health care facilities and by creating meaningful enforcement mechanisms. These protections are essential to ensuring continuity of care, protecting health care workers, and safeguarding patients' rights to access medically necessary services without obstruction.

This bill strikes an appropriate balance by protecting access to care while respecting lawful activities, and it sends a clear message that patient safety and uninterrupted health care delivery are priorities for our state.

For these reasons, I strongly urge you to support SB2845.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony and for your commitment to protecting access to health care in Hawai'i.

Respectfully,

Shanda Brack, APRN

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/6/2026 12:43:36 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Patti Cook	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly support this proposed legislation.

Mahalo - Patti Cook

Waimea, Island of Hawai'i

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/6/2026 3:05:56 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William Caron	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SB2845, a critical measure to protect the fundamental right of every individual in Hawai‘i to access healthcare safely, freely, and without fear of intimidation or obstruction.

Healthcare facilities are sacred spaces of healing, privacy, and critical service. They must remain safe havens for patients, providers, and staff. This bill directly addresses dangerous disruptions by:

- **Safeguarding Access to Care:** By prohibiting interference with a person’s access to or from a health care facility, SB2845 protects the most vulnerable among us. Patients seeking time-sensitive, private, and often emotionally difficult care—including reproductive services, gender-affirming treatments, cancer therapy, or end-of-life care—should never have to run a gauntlet of harassment or obstruction. This bill ensures their safe passage is a matter of law.
- **Protecting Facility Function:** Disrupting the normal functioning of a healthcare facility is not a protest; it is an attack on public health and safety. It endangers patients by delaying emergency services, diverting critical staff resources, and creating an environment of chaos. Making such disruptions a petty misdemeanor provides law enforcement and prosecutors with a necessary and proportionate tool to uphold order and safety for all.
- **Creating Meaningful Recourse:** The establishment of a private right of action for harmed individuals and facilities, along with the authorization for the Attorney General to seek injunctive relief, creates a robust enforcement framework. It empowers those directly victimized by this conduct to seek justice and provides a powerful deterrent against organized efforts to shut down healthcare access.

In an era where healthcare providers and patients are increasingly targeted, Hawai‘i must take a clear stand. No one should be blocked, filmed, harassed, or intimidated when seeking lawful medical care. No nurse or doctor should fear for their safety while entering their workplace.

SB2845 strikes the appropriate balance, protecting constitutionally protected expression in public spaces while drawing a firm line at conduct that actively blocks, harasses, or disrupts healthcare delivery. It affirms that the right to access healthcare is paramount.

I urge you to pass SB2845. Protect our patients, protect our providers, and protect the sanctity of healthcare in Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/6/2026 5:15:54 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Vanessa K Zepeda	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear members of the HHS commitee,

I am writting testimony to urge the committe to support the passing of SB2845. This bill is important to protect individuals and healthcare providers who are simply trying to obtain and give necessary treatments to those needing care. It is unacceptable to allow protestors to block entrances to these healthcare facilities. Individuals should not be met with violence and shame to obtain the healhcare they need. I am in full support of an individuals right to protest, however entrances and parking areas should be off limits. I am growing more and more impatient with the religious beliefs of others being imposed onto others. That is not free speech and the right to assemble- that is oppression and should not be tolerated. I strongly urge the commitee to pass the necessary measures to insure individuals have access to the healthcare they deserve without fear.

Thank you so much for reading my testimony.

Aloha,

Dr. Vanessa K. Zepeda

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/6/2026 11:47:46 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Bonnie Fraser	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is vitally important that access to healthcare be protected!!

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 12:33:36 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Amelia Sofos	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Aloha Members of the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services,**

**My name is Amelia Sofos and I am a student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa and a member of Generation Action, a student-led group dedicated to advancing sex education and safe reproductive health access in our campus community, and I am in strong support of SB2845.**

**SB2845 would protect patients and providers from protestors who obstruct access to vehicles and health care centers, yell slurs, use other harmful and hateful language, and make threats. For me and many members of our community, it is paramount that residents of our state are protected when seeking or providing legal health care services. Over the past year, I have personally witnessed protestors along Beretania Street harassing individuals, obstructing access, and creating unsafe conditions. No one should be afraid to access or provide legal health care due to fear of harassment. Therefore, I strongly urge the committee to pass SB2845 and protect our community's right to privacy, safety, and health care access.**

**Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,**

**Amelia Sofos**

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 1:50:25 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tim Huycke	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB2845.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 6:36:27 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michelle Bonk	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a combat veteran nurse, I strongly believe that patients and providers should not be afraid of being harassed for accessing or providing legal health care services.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 10:31:19 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kanani Kai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha.

I support this Bill.

Mahalo.

Kanani Kai

Member Hawaii Indivisible

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 10:46:04 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rachel Howard	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB 1961 (SB2845) because I care about the health and wellness of women in our community. I am a member of Indivisible Hawaii. Aloha.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 10:47:33 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lois Langham	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill to keep ICE from scaring people away from seeking healthcare. ICE has a record of some INDISCRIMINATE arrests and ill treatment which creates a wide field of vulnerability in our community. As a member of Indivisible Hawaii, I strongly urge you to pass this bill to safeguard the health of people fearful of losing their freedom to seek healthcare.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 11:07:54 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Martha Nakajima	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill. Access to legal healthcare, including abortion care, is a human right. Thank you. Martha Nakajima, Honolulu, member of Indivisible

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 12:00:02 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Thomas Brandt	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strong support!

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair

Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Vice Chair

HEARING:

Monday, February 9, 2026 at 1:05 PM

Conference Room 225 & Videoconference

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2845 - RELATING TO HEALTH CARE.**

Aloha Chair Buenaventura, Vice Chair McKelvey, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Christine Andrews, and I am a long-term resident of Wailuku, Maui. I write to you today in **support of SB 2845**, relating to health care, which prohibits persons from interfering with another person's access to or from a health care facility or disrupting the normal functioning of a health care facility, makes violations a petty misdemeanor, establishes a private right of action for individuals and health care facilities harmed as a result of interference with a health care facility, and authorizes the Attorney General to bring an action for injunctive or other equitable relief.

I have a friend who went through the heartbreak of a late-term abortion. This was not a decision she or her husband made lightly. It was done in consultation with her doctor, and after hurried personal research and getting second opinions. Everything they learned was that their loved and anticipated child had congenital defects that would cause him untreatable and intractable pain and suffering if he made it to term, while possibly endangering his mother's life if he did not. She and her husband made the difficult choice to terminate a much-wanted pregnancy because they felt that was the best and only option to avoid pain and suffering for their unborn child. It was a choice that came from love and caring, held in compassion and heartbreak.

The suffering of my friend and her husband during this extremely difficult time while faced with a heartbreaking choice, was only made more difficult by having to navigate protesters at the healthcare facility where they had the procedure done. They were already suffering, but had done their research, and in consultation with doctors, made their decision. Protesters trying to interfere with their access to healthcare were not going to change their mind. The protesters just made a difficult time even more challenging.

In Hawaii, people's personal medical choices and access to health care is interrupted regularly by protesters who harass patients and providers at Planned Parenthood health centers, especially in Honolulu. Protesters lean on patients' and providers' cars, yell slurs, and stand in front of patient vehicles to prevent safe access entering and exiting the clinic. Hawai'i needs a bill to provide the police more tools to intervene in situations like this.

**I strongly support SB 2845**, included in the Women's Legislative Caucus package, because it will make it unlawful for a person to interfere with access to a health care facility, including prohibiting physical obstruction, disturbing the peace, trespassing, telephoning a clinic repeatedly, or threatening

administrative staff, providers, and patients. Fundamentally, patients and providers should not be afraid of being harassed for accessing or providing legal health care services.

I **strongly support SB 2845** as a needed source of protection for people like my friend. I request that you support women's access to healthcare by voting in support of SB 2845.

Mahalo,

Christine Andrews  
Wailuku, Maui

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 1:28:34 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Danielle Goren	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my strong support for SB2845 as a Lahaina resident and member of Indivisible Hawai'i.

Protesters continue to harass patients and providers at Planned Parenthood health centers, especially in Honolulu. Protesters lean on patients' and providers' cars, yell slurs, and stand in front of patient vehicles to prevent safe access entering and exiting the clinic. Hawai'i needs a bill to provide the police more tools to intervene in situations like this.

I strongly support a bill included in the Women's Legislative Caucus package that will make it unlawful for a person to interfere with access to a health care facility, including prohibiting physical obstruction, disturbing the peace, trespassing, telephoning a clinic repeatedly, or threatening administrative staff, providers, and patients. Fundamentally, patients and providers should not be afraid of being harassed for accessing or providing legal health care services.

Thank you for your commitment to our community,

Danielle Goren

Lahaina, Hawai'i

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 1:58:14 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dianne Bernert	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**I strongly support HB 1961 (SB2845).**

**I am a woman and worked 38 years as a teacher. I watched many girls and young women who relied on health care services provided by Planned Parenthood. For many it was their trusted method of getting health care. We can not just sit back while women and their providers continue to be harassed.**

**Please provide services to protect their rights and their health as they continue to reach for care.**

**I strongly support a bill included in the Women’s Legislative Caucus package that will make it unlawful for a person to interfere with access to a health care facility, including prohibiting physical obstruction, disturbing the peace, trespassing, telephoning a clinic repeatedly, or threatening administrative staff, providers, and patients. Fundamentally, patients and providers should not be afraid of being harassed for accessing or providing legal health care services.**

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 2:36:25 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Maris Leonhardy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a citizen, a constituent, and most importantly a client of Planned Parenthood, I am strongly in support of a bill that protects the entrances of healthcare clinics and the clients that use them. No one should have to feel fear when seeking care. Protestors, strangers, and passersby, should not be a consideration when a person is making the right healthcare decision for them. Feeling accosted as they go into their healthcare offices, violates their freedom of choice and the ethical principals of autonomy. I support the safety and security and peace of these entrances and the clients who use them.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 3:27:31 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nancy D Moser	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 3:37:30 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
JANE TOLLEFSRUD	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please protect the freedom of all Hawaiian residents to access health care by making sure there is no interference in their ability to physically get to and from any health care facility. Please support accountability- those who are disruptive &/or destructive to persons or facilities should be penalized, and possibly charged.

Thank you!

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 3:47:29 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
DeWaine Tollefsrud	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha and thank you for hearing testimony in this important issue.

I am writing in support of HB2845 that protects our families' right to determine what is the best course of action as it relates to our collective personal health decisions. Our decisions are our own and the public-at-large has no right to interfere in any legal decision that has been duly considered by individuals and families. Please support HB2845.

Mahalo nui for your attention and service.

DeWaine Tollefsrud

Kea'au, HI 96749

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 3:48:01 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Judith White	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 5:04:19 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ben Robinson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Writing in support of this measure.

Mahalo!

Ben

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 5:41:01 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Roger Hamada	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SB2845.

No person seeking healthcare, providing healthcare, or owning/managing a healthcare facility should feel bullied, intimidated, or afraid to seek, access, and receive or provide that healthcare.

If another person attempts to interfere with someone seeking or providing such healthcare, that interfering person should be subject to some kind of consequence which may prevent a repeat of that behavior in the future.

Thank you for allowing my testimony.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 9:42:56 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sara Harris	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Members of the Committee —

My name is Sara Harris and I am a practicing obstetrician-gynecologist in Hawai‘i. I am submitting testimony **in strong support of SB2845**.

As an OB/GYN, I care for patients whose health depends on **timely and uninterrupted access to medical care**. Prenatal visits, pregnancy complications, miscarriage management, and other reproductive health services are often time-sensitive and cannot be delayed without risking serious harm. Any obstruction, intimidation, or disruption that interferes with a patient’s ability to enter a health care facility directly threatens patient safety.

SB2845 helps ensure that patients can access care **without fear or delay**, and that health care providers can deliver medically appropriate services in a safe and professional environment. This is particularly important for pregnant patients and those seeking sensitive or urgent care, who may already be experiencing physical, emotional, or medical stress.

This bill is not about limiting speech — it is about protecting **safe access to health care**. From a clinical perspective, safeguarding that access is essential to improving maternal health outcomes and supporting high-quality care in Hawai‘i.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to **pass SB2845**.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Respectfully,

Sara C Harris, MD

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 10:25:47 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2026 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lynn Otaguro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support passage of SB 2845, that will make it unlawful for a person to interfere with access to a health care facility, including prohibiting physical obstruction, disturbing the peace, trespassing, telephoning a clinic repeatedly, or threatening administrative staff, providers, and patients.

Protesters are harassing patients and providers at Planned Parenthood health centers, especially in Honolulu. This is not right. Patients deserve access to health care without harassment. Care providers should be allowed to work without interference. Please support this bill.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 7:01:07 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kehaulani Coleman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 7:56:58 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
G L Hutchinson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support a bill included in the Women’s Legislative Caucus package that will make it unlawful for a person to interfere with access to a health care facility, including prohibiting physical obstruction, disturbing the peace, trespassing, telephoning a clinic repeatedly, or threatening administrative staff, providers, and patients. Fundamentally, patients and providers should not be afraid of being harassed for accessing or providing legal health care services.

this gives the police more power to ptotect the peopole of Hawaii.

Thank yo for your attenition to this important matter

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 7:58:20 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Joanne Amberg	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha!

These are trying time. We must all work to protect the most vulnerable, and those trying to assist them. That is why we must protect those going for services and working at health care facilities.

I strongly support a bill included in the Women’s Legislative Caucus package that will make it unlawful for a person to interfere with access to a health care facility, including prohibiting physical obstruction, disturbing the peace, trespassing, telephoning a clinic repeatedly, or threatening administrative staff, providers, and patients. Fundamentally, patients and providers should not be afraid of being harassed for accessing or providing legal health care services.

Mahalo,

Joanne Amberg

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 9:19:12 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mala Wingerd	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB 1961 (SB2845). In one of the wealthiest countries, in a democracy, in a land of "freedom"...Women should be allowed to choose what is best for them at specific times in their lives. Abortion is healthcare! It is one of the most difficult choices a woman makes in her life. These choices often come in the aftermath of rape; in response to the age of the rape victim; as a result of poverty and/or personal health conditions; and many other concerns.

No woman should be refused life-saving healthcare, or go through harrasment during this difficult time. How would men feel if they were called names, refused services, demonized for getting a vasectomy, have their Viagra taken from them, or cancer treatments that makes them infertile, or... Women should not be forced to bleed to death alone in a parking lot or in bed w/their young child. ENOUGH.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 9:23:23 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Janet Teare	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for supporting this important bill to protect our healthcare decisions. I am a member of Indivisible.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 9:28:54 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jim Klyman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support a persons ability to access a health care facility for their health maintenance without someone elses belief that the particular care facility should not be in operation and denying patient access for care.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 10:03:31 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ron Brown	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is outrageous that clients and providers of medical services to women, including abortion, are submitted to the kind of harrassment that antiabortion fanatics have used. Please support this measure.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 10:33:11 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Bruce Wingerd	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Hawai'i needs a bill to provide the police more tools to intervene in situations like this.**

**I strongly support a bill included in the Women's Legislative Caucus package that will make it unlawful for a person to interfere with access to a health care facility, including prohibiting physical obstruction, disturbing the peace, trespassing, telephoning a clinic repeatedly, or threatening administrative staff, providers, and patients. Fundamentally, patients and providers should not be afraid of being harassed for accessing or providing legal health care services. Thank you for offering this important legislation for consideration.**

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 11:09:22 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Robert Sylvester	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for supporting this bill. I am a member of Indivisible.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 11:14:24 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Karen Hester	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for supporting this bill. I am a member of Indivisible.”

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 11:19:48 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Naomi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for supporting this bill. Please continue to support a government that works for the people. I am a member of Indivisible.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 11:24:55 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rebecca Gonzalez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for supporting SB2845. People need to have access to healthcare free from fear and mistrust. No one should feel threatened.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 11:28:36 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Olivia Manayan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and honorable Committee Members,

My name is Dr. Olivia Manayan. I am a board-certified OB/GYN who provides abortion care across the state, including at Planned Parenthood Hawai'i. I write to you today in **strong support** of SB2845.

Despite being a key component of the practice of evidence-based, full-scope OB/GYN care, abortion care is often stigmatized. For many years, protestors against abortion have stood outside of clinics, often using aggressive language and signage to intimidate patients, in an attempt to dissuade them from seeking care. The presence of anti-choice protestors outside of clinics which provide this vital care does not only exacerbate the stigma that patients who seek abortion care face, but it also threatens patient safety. Aside from spewing verbally violent rhetoric, protestors provide information to patients that is objectively false and clinically misleading.

Ultimately, the decisions that a pregnant person makes regarding her health and her bodily autonomy are private and need not be privy to the scrutiny of others; no person should be harassed for seeking healthcare. We trust our patients to make decisions that are best for their life and their family, and we want to ensure that when our patients entrust us with their care, that they may do so in a setting where they feel safe, supported, and empowered.

In addition to the safety of our patients, the aggressive nature of anti-abortion protestors threatens the safety of abortion care providers. As you may be familiar, our country has a history of showing violence, sometimes towards fatal ends, to abortion providers. I would be lying if I said that every time I enter the Planned Parenthood clinic and am harassed by the antagonistic rhetoric of protestors, who are often filming on their phones, that I do not fear for the safety of myself and my family. By removing these threats to safety, you can improve the safety of healthcare workers who work at clinics like ours, ensuring that patients are able to get the care they need and deserve.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I am always available to answer questions for clarification.

Me ke aloha pumehana,

Olivia Manayan, MD MPH  
Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Honolulu, HI

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 11:30:10 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Christopher Davis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for supporting this bill. I am a member of Indivisible.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 11:30:23 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nancy Elmer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

No one should be prohibited from accessing health care facilities, no matter their status

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 11:31:04 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jessica Kuzmier	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing in support of SB2845. I believe people should be able to access healthcare without harassment. Mahalo for taking my views into consideration.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 11:43:45 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shayna Cohen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for supporting this bill

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 12:04:28 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Roberta Baker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for supporting this bill.

I am a member of Indivisible Hawaii.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 12:36:46 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
John Wassell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Healthcare facilities should left alone to serve the public. No interference!

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 12:43:37 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sarah Corry	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB2845. Health care facilities must be a protected place of safety for all people who seek services and give services therein. Please act now to preserve these basic human rights.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 12:54:56 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Estrella S Marin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Estrella Marin and as a resident of Hawaii, I support SB2845. I do not want a single person or anybody or anything from interfering with another person's access to or from a health care facility or disrupting the normal functioning of a health care facility. I also am a volunterr with Indivisible of Hawaii.

To: Hawaii State Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

Hearing Date/Time: Monday February 9, 2026, 1:05pm

Place: Hawaii State Capitol, CR 225 & Videoconference

Re: Judith Ann Armstrong supports SB2175 RELATING TO HEALTH CARE

Dear Chair Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey and members of the Committee on Health and Human Services

I, Judith Ann Armstrong, support SB2845 which Prohibit Interference with Health Care Facilities.

Protesters continue to harass patients and providers at Planned Parenthood health centers, especially in Honolulu. Protesters lean on patients' and providers' cars, yell slurs, and stand in front of patient vehicles to prevent safe access entering and exiting the clinic. Hawai'i needs a bill to provide the police more tools to intervene in situations like this.

I strongly support a bill included in the Women's Legislative Caucus package that will make it unlawful for a person to interfere with access to a health care facility, including prohibiting physical obstruction, disturbing the peace, trespassing, telephoning a clinic repeatedly, or threatening administrative staff, providers, and patients. Fundamentally, patients and providers should not be afraid of being harassed for accessing or providing legal health care services.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Judith Ann Armstrong

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 1:36:07 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alicia Hedlesky	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

02/08/2026

Committee on Human Health and Human Services

Senator Joy A. San Buenventura, Chair

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Vice Chair

**RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB2845**

Dear Chair San Buenventura, Vice Chair McKelvey, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Alicia Hedlesky, a resident of Moloa'a, Kauai and a member of Indivisible Hawaii. I am writing to strongly support SB2845, which would allow extra protection to people seeking health care. Protesters at Planned Parenthood facilities lean on patients' and providers' cars, yell slurs, and stand in front of patient vehicles to prevent safe access entering and exiting the clinic. Patients and providers deserve to feel safe providing legal health care to state residents, and passing this bill would be step in that direction.

Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to testify on this important issue,

Alicia Hedlesky

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 4:17:19 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jane Aquino	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Protesters continue to harass patients and providers at Planned Parenthood health centers, especially in Honolulu. Protesters lean on patients' and providers' cars, yell slurs, and stand in front of patient vehicles to prevent safe access entering and exiting the clinic. Hawai'i needs a bill to provide the police more tools to intervene in situations like this.

I strongly support a bill included in the Women's Legislative Caucus package that will make it unlawful for a person to interfere with access to a health care facility, including prohibiting physical obstruction, disturbing the peace, trespassing, telephoning a clinic repeatedly, or threatening administrative staff, providers, and patients. Fundamentally, patients and providers should not be afraid of being harassed for accessing or providing legal health care services.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 5:01:03 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lily Troy MD	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Do not allow interference at healthcare facilities by ICE/ FBI or MPD IF ACTING AS AGENTS FOR TRUMP's EVIL DHS PROGRAM

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 8:23:27 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Krystal N Barnett	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you! I'm a member of Indivisible Hawai'i.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 8:33:10 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Julie Rivers	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am strongly in support of prohibiting interference with access to health clinic. Healthcare is person and is between a patient and their Dr. Citizens should be able to provide the health care that they want and need without being verbally or physically harmed or harassed.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Julie Rivers

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 10:40:33 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dwight T. Martin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a registered Hawaii voter living in Honolulu and am a member of IndivisibleHawaii.

I strongly support a bill included in the Women’s Legislative Caucus package that will make it unlawful for a person to interfere with access to a health care facility, including prohibiting physical obstruction, disturbing the peace, trespassing, telephoning a clinic repeatedly, or threatening administrative staff, providers, and patients. Fundamentally, patients and providers should not be afraid of being harassed for accessing or providing legal health care services.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 12:49:30 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jody Weidemann	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Protesters continue to harass patients & providers at Planned Parenthood health centers, especially in Honolulu. Protesters lean on patient's & provider's cars, yell slurs and stand in front of patient's vehicles to prevent safe access entering & exiting the clinic. Hawai'i needs a bill to provide the police more tools to intervene in situations like this.

i strongly support a bill included in the Women;s Legislative Caucus package that will make it unlawful for a person to interfere with access to a health care facility, including prohibiting physical obstruction, disturbing the peace, trespassing, telephoning a clinic repeatedly or threatening administrative staff, providers & patients. Fundamentally, patients & providers should not be afraid of being harassed for accessing or providing legal health care services.

i used Planned Parenthood to help me conceive my child and I should not have to hazard a gauntlet to do so.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 6:46:07 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kathleen Dickson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The state of Hawai'i should prohibit interference with access to ANY health clinic. There should be NO interference to access to health care.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 8:27:31 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Joie Yonamine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Joie Yonamine, and I am submitting testimony in strong support of SB2845 both as an individual and as a member of the Indivisible Hawaii State Network (IHSN). SB2845 will make it unlawful for interference with access to a health care facility, including prohibiting physical obstruction, disturbing the peace, trespassing, telephoning a clinic repeatedly, or threatening administrative staff, providers, and patients.

Most days on my way to work driving into town, I see protestors outside the Planned Parenthood health center on Beretania. These protestors harass patients and providers, yell slurs, and inhibit safe access entering and existing the clinic. Planned Parenthood provides essential reproductive and sexual healthcare to already vulnerable populations, who should be able to seek care without fear, intimidation, or harassment.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to pass this bill and continue Hawai'i's leadership in defending compassionate, evidence-based health care.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Joie Yonamine, Manoa

**To: Committee on Health and Human Services**

**Hearing Date/Time: Friday, February 13, 2026 1:00 PM**

**Re: Testimony in Support of SB 2845**

**Dear Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair McKelvey and Members of the Committee:**

The Hawaii Health & Harm Reduction Center (HHRC) **supports SB 2845** which prohibits persons from interfering with another person's access to or from a health care facility or disrupting the normal functioning of a health care facility and establishes a private right of action for individuals and healthcare facilities harmed as a result of interference with a healthcare facility.

HHRC has seen an increase in harassment and threats against our medical providers, and this bill would increase protections not just for healthcare providers, but ensuring right to access their medical care without fear of harm.

HHRC's mission is to *reduce harm, promote health, create wellness and fight stigma in Hawaii and the Pacific*. We focus our efforts on those disproportionately affected by social determinants of health, including but not limited to: people living with and/or affected by HIV, hepatitis, substance use, and the transgender, LGBTQ and the Native Hawaiian communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Heather Lusk, Executive Director, Hawaii Health and Harm Reduction Center

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 8:31:52 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Denize Machit	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Anywhere where families gather, be it schools, churches, playgrounds or even during unhappy times, hospitals, must be protected from violence and chase.

please support this bill because it protects children and families.

Idivisible member

Denize Machit

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 8:50:02 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Helen Shirts	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for supporting this bill. I am a member of Indivisible.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 9:00:36 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
James E Raymond	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you -- I am a member of Indivisible Windward.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 9:42:05 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Keira Nash	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Support SB2845 because everyone deserves to have safe access to healthcare facilities. This state promotes equality so please vote to support prohibiting people from interfering with that, thank you for your time.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 9:51:28 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Bejana Mehr	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of SB2845. I support protecting patients and healthcare employees. Safe access to healthcare facilities should be a right afforded to all essential healthcare workers. All of the people of Hawai'i deserve safe access to healthcare. Please vote for SB 2845 which protects healthcare patients, visitors and staff.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 10:26:31 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Bridget Llanes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Estimados, I strongly support SB 2845, a bill included in the Women’s Legislative Caucus package that will make it unlawful for a person to interfere with access to a health care facility, including prohibiting physical obstruction, disturbing the peace, trespassing, telephoning a clinic repeatedly, or threatening administrative staff, providers, and patients. Fundamentally, patients and providers should not be afraid of being harassed for accessing or providing legal health care services.

Many thanks for this opportunity to submit comments.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 11:15:00 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Elizabeth Kamida	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HB1961 (SB2845) Prohibit Interference with Health Care Facilities

Protesters continue to harass patients and providers at Planned Parenthood health centers, especially in Honolulu. Protesters lean on patients' and providers' cars, yell slurs, and stand in front of patient vehicles to prevent safe access entering and exiting the clinic. Hawai'i needs a bill to provide the police more tools to intervene in situations like this.

As a private citizen and as a member of Indivisible, I strongly support a bill included in the Women's Legislative Caucus package that will make it unlawful for a person to interfere with access to a health care facility, including prohibiting physical obstruction, disturbing the peace, trespassing, telephoning a clinic repeatedly, or threatening administrative staff, providers, and patients. Fundamentally, patients and providers should not be afraid of being harassed for accessing or providing legal health care services. Thank you.

Elizabeth Kamida

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 11:55:00 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Madison Masek	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Patients and providers should not be afraid of being harassed for accessing or providing legal health care services. By allowing people to block & harass an individual from receiving care, that individual's right to health care is being denied.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 11:55:27 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tina Even	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB2845

Tina Marie Even

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 1:20:04 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mary Lu Kelley	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha.

I am writing in support of this bill that protects patients and providers by preventing protestors from blocking entrances or exits, threatening patients or providers, or interfering with health care facilities.

At the Honolulu Planned Parenthood health center, protesters have blocked driveways, leaned on vehicles, and shouted slurs at patients and staff. No one should face intimidation just to receive medical care. This bill will protect ALL health care facilities.

Do the right thing.

Thank you.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 3:16:23 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Bo Breda	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, My name is Bo Breda and I live in Pahos HI and I rise in support of SB2845. This is an important bill as it protects facilities and individuals getting their health care. This bill protects patients and providers by preventing protestors from blocking entrances or exits, threatening patients or providers, or interfering with health care facilities. At the Honolulu Planned Parenthood health center, protestors have blocked driveways, leaned on vehicles, and shouted slurs at patients and staff. No one should face intimidation just to receive medical care. There is never a time when anyone should get involved in someones private heath care decisions.

I thank you for reading my opinion concerning this important bill.

Bo Breda

Paho, HI 96778

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 3:17:37 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Peter Wilson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, My name is Peter Wilson and I live in Pahos HI and I rise in support of SB2845. This is an important bill as it protects facilities and individuals getting their health care. This bill protects patients and providers by preventing protestors from blocking entrances or exits, threatening patients or providers, or interfering with health care facilities. At the Honolulu Planned Parenthood health center, protestors have blocked driveways, leaned on vehicles, and shouted slurs at patients and staff. No one should face intimidation just to receive medical care. There is never a time when anyone should get invovled in someones private heath care decisions.

I thank you for reading my opinion soncerning this important bill.

Peter Wilson

Paho, HI 96778

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 3:24:42 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Emily Kulaga	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Emily Kulaga and I am currently a senior at UH Manoa and I am also involved with Planned Parenthood Generation Action at UH, a student led group dedicated to reproductive justice and accessibility to safe reproductive healthcare for all. I am writing in strong support of SB2845.

This bill protects patients and providers by preventing protestors from blocking entrances or exits, threatening patients or providers, or interfering with health care facilities. As a volunteer at Planned Parenthood, I have been harrassed by protestors countless times. The exit from Planned Parenthood onto Beretania is already quite dangerous and having a man standing next to my car and yelling at my makes the situation more stressful and more dangerous than it already is. As I have previously mentioned, this has happened to me and to patients who are receiving care countless times.

No one should face intimidation just to receive medical care. This bill will protect all health care facilities. Therefore, I strongly urge you to pass SB2845 and protect our community's right to safe healthcare.

Mahalo,

Emily Kulaga

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 3:37:47 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Anna Myers	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please give people the right to have healthcare of their choice. It is freedom a freedom that everyone should enjoy.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 3:46:25 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Gwyneth Rosenbaum-Olins	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Testimony in Support of SB 2845 Relating to Health Care**

My name is Gwyn, and I am currently a 20-year-old student at UH Mānoa, from Kona, Hawai'i. I hold an officer position for Planned Parenthood Generation Action, and I am in strong support of SB 2845.

I support SB 2845 because I have personally dealt with shame and frustration experienced as a result of harassment by protesters outside of Planned Parenthood. Protestors outside of Planned Parenthood incite shame and fear in patients in need of care. I find it extremely important that people be able to access healthcare facilities without interference from people outside of the facility. I sincerely hope that you will consider supporting this bill.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Gwyneth Rosenbaum-Olins

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 3:50:37 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Andrew Grandinetti	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of SB2845 because protecting the right to safe access to health care is important to the protection of the Hawaii's public health.

Mahalo,

Andrew Grandinetti, PhD

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 7:53:41 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Marguerite Koster	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am a resident of Kaka'ako and wish to show my SUPPORT for SB2845 - which prohibits persons from interfering with another person's access to or from a health care facility or disrupting the normal functioning of a health care facility. For many years I have been involved in abortion clinic defense and believe that no one should be prevented from obtaining necessary and/or elective health care services.

Mahalo,

Marguerite Koster

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 8:08:28 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cheryl Bellamy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support a bill included in the Women’s Legislative Caucus package that will make it unlawful for a person to interfere with access to a health care facility, including prohibiting physical obstruction, disturbing the peace, trespassing, telephoning a clinic repeatedly, or threatening administrative staff, providers, and patients. Fundamentally, patients and providers should not be afraid of being harassed for accessing or providing legal health care services.

I am a member of Indivisible Hawaii

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 8:38:24 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kay Lee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I strongly support of SB2845. Thank you.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 8:48:39 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Susan Collins	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**I strongly support HB 1961 (SB2845)**

Feb. 10, 2026

To: Chair Buenaventura, Vice Chair McKelvey, and Members of Senate Committee on Health and Human Services  
Re: SUPPORT SB 2845

Hearing: Tuesday, Feb 13, 2026 — 1:00PM

Aloha Chair Buenaventura, Vice Chair McKelvey, and Committee Members

My name is John M. Knox, a retired socio-economic consultant and longtime Waimānalo resident. I am also a member of both the Hawai'i Indivisible and Hawai'i ACLU organizations.

I submit testimony on behalf of myself in strong support of SB 2845. People should be free to go to clinics without being screamed at. I have known women who had to “run the gauntlet” at one of the most emotionally stressful times of their lives. This has piled trauma upon trauma.

I respectfully urge you to PASS this measure. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

John M. Knox  
Waimānalo  
Johnmknox808@gmail.com

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 9:35:07 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jesse Hutchison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**I strongly support SB2845. Thank you!**

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 10:00:16 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Andrea Simpliciano	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is not right for people to harass others physically and verbally and interfere with getting into medical facilities to get healthcare. As someone who is aware of medical emergencies occurring suddenly (older family members that experienced a stroke and I, myself have experienced anaphylaxis) may die if someone physically interferes with access to a healthcare facility, particularly the emergency room.

I grew up in a religious environment that opposes abortion, and there are instances of giving misinformation on abortion in front of reproductive health care clinics like Planned Parenthood near the Honolulu Country State Capitol and blocking care to other reproductive health services (STI testing so symptoms can be treated and Pap smears that detect cervical cancer). This misinformation can deter preventative health care, where health issues can be dealt with before becoming serious. These people should be held accountable such as receiving a fine (\$2000), parol time, and immediate notice to leave the premises from law enforcement (HPD). Please support this bill so that people are able to receive healthcare in emergency and non-emergency situations.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 10:05:55 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Robert Justice, M.D.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha. I provided testimony recently on this bill. As a retired physician and member of Indivisible Hawaii, I again strongly support SB2845. No one, regardless of their personal beliefs, should be allowed to obstruct or inhibit access to healthcare. Such behavior is arrogant and immoral and should be subject to criminal penalties. No one has the right to interfere with another person's medical decisions.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 10:24:20 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Matthieu Kalua	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Members of the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services,

My name is Matthieu Kalua, and I am a graduate student at the University of Hawaii at Mānoa, an aspiring reproductive health physician, and a member of Planned Parenthood Generation Action at UH Mānoa, a student-led reproductive health access organization on campus. I am writing in SUPPORT of SB2845.

This bill would protect patients and providers by prohibiting individuals from interfering with the safe entry and exit from healthcare facilities. As a volunteer at the Planned Parenthood health center on Beretania, I have been verbally and physically harassed by protestors when entering and leaving the health center. While protesting is covered by our first amendment right, threatening the health and safety of others is not.

Patients, staff, and volunteers should not have to be fearful when entering healthcare facilities to receive the care they need. This bill would protect all healthcare facilities, which is why I urge you to PASS SB2845.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Matthieu Kalua

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 7:28:26 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
ANDREW ISODA	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*Every person deserves access to health care safely, with dignity, and without fear. Unfortunately, this is not always the case.*

*Over the past several decades, and especially since the overturn of Roe, incidents of violence have continuously increased. This includes vandalism, assault and battery, threats of harm or death threats, stalking, harassment, and in the most extreme cases, murder of individual abortion providers.*

*We are asking the state legislature to enhance protections for health care facilities — including patients and providers — from protestors by giving law enforcement the tools they need to intervene.*

Mahalo,  
Andrew Isoda  
Lahaina, Mau'i

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 12:15:31 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Keana Wong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill protects patients and providers by preventing protestors from blocking entrances or exits, threatening patients or providers, or interfering with health care facilities.

No one should face intimidation just to receive medical care. This bill will protect ALL health care facilities.

We are asking the state legislature to enhance protections for health care facilities — including patients and providers — from protestors by giving law enforcement the tools they need to intervene.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 8:07:03 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Calvin Black	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

No person, whether US citizen, resident, or otherwise, should be prevented from accessing healthcare by any means, including via nonphysical methods such as harassment and intimidation. Thank you for supporting this bill.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 9:19:48 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Eileen Cain	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Citizens seeking health care need to be protected from verbal and physical harassment.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 11:09:43 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Gaye Chan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support a bill that will make it unlawful for a person to interfere with access to a health care facility, including prohibiting physical obstruction, disturbing the peace, trespassing, telephoning a clinic repeatedly, or threatening administrative staff, providers, and patients. Fundamentally, patients and providers should not be afraid of being harassed for accessing or providing legal health care services.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/12/2026 3:28:08 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tonya Lee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to you as a constituent and a woman who has spent much of my life navigating the challenges of poverty. I am writing to urge your full support for SB 2845.

For someone in my position, legislation like this isn't just about policy; it's about survival and dignity. While I struggle to cover basic necessities like rent and healthcare, I see a system where the wealthiest can defer taxes indefinitely. Passing this act would ensure that those with the most contribute their fair share to the programs our community relies on, such as Social Security and Medicare. Many women in my community work these essential jobs but remain in poverty themselves because of low wages. Increasing pay for direct support professionals is a vital step toward economic stability for workers and better care for our most vulnerable. When you are living in poverty, a single medical appointment can be the difference between staying afloat or falling behind. No one should face interference or disruption when trying to access the basic healthcare they need to stay healthy and employed.

I ask you to consider the voices of those of us who often go unheard in the halls of power. Please vote YES on SB 2845 to help build a more equitable future for all of us.

Mahalo nui loa

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/12/2026 3:36:26 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Eric Derrick	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing as your constituent to express my strong support for SB 2845.

As someone who has navigated the difficult transition from incarceration back into society, I know firsthand the importance of systemic fairness and accessible resources. For many of us, the path to a "second chance" is paved with financial and social barriers that are often impossible to overcome without legislative support. Passing this act ensures that those at the top contribute fairly to the infrastructure and social safety nets that help people like me stay on our feet and avoid recidivism. This legislation provides the critical direct support or health care access necessary for individuals in reentry to maintain their health and employment.

I have worked hard to turn my life around and contribute positively to our community. I ask that you vote YES on SB 2845 to ensure that our laws reflect a commitment to equity and opportunity for all, regardless of their past. Aloha and mahalo

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/12/2026 3:45:37 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Loretta Tanioka	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to you from my home in Waianae. I am a woman in my 80s and, due to my health, I am currently bedridden. I am writing to urge you to support SB 2845.

While I spend most of my time at home, my life depends entirely on the healthcare system. When I must be transported to a facility for specialized care or procedures, it is an exhausting and physically vulnerable process. For someone in my condition, any delay, disruption, or intimidation at the entrance of a medical facility isn't just an inconvenience, it is a threat to my health and my peace of mind.

SB 2845 is vital because it ensures safety: Patients who are already struggling with illness or mobility issues should never have to navigate a "gauntlet" just to see a doctor. It protects the vulnerable: When you are being moved on a gurney or in a wheelchair, you cannot simply walk away from a stressful situation. We need the law to ensure our path to care is clear. It respects dignity: Seeking medical help is a private matter. This bill helps preserve the dignity of every Hawaii resident seeking care.

I may not be able to testify in person at the State Capitol, but I hope my voice carries weight. Please vote YES on SB 2845 to protect the rights of all patients to access healthcare safely and without interference. Mahalo

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/12/2026 7:18:50 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Candice Lanette	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill prohibiting interference with access to health clinics. Its basic human decency and should already be followed.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/12/2026 7:32:06 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
KATHERINE ROSEGUO	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB 1961 (SB2845)

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/12/2026 8:27:35 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Barbara Jackson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We should all have access to healthcare facilities.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/12/2026 9:46:11 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nancy Johnson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support Bill SB2845 Which concerns the safety of people who are using Planned Parenthood And other clinics for whatever reasons. Mahalo

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/12/2026 10:58:47 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Marcela Montalto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**I strongly support a bill included in the Women’s Legislative Caucus package that will make it unlawful for a person to interfere with access to a health care facility, including prohibiting physical obstruction, disturbing the peace, trespassing, telephoning a clinic repeatedly, or threatening administrative staff, providers, and patients. Fundamentally, patients and providers should not be afraid of being harassed for accessing or providing legal health care services.**

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/12/2026 12:53:41 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Addie Berliner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In Support of HB2845

To safely access healthcare is an American right. We must protect our citizens!

Thank You!

Addie Berliner

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/12/2026 12:59:18 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alyssa Kameoka	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SB2845.

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/12/2026 12:59:19 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Reni Soon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha –

As a double-board certified OBGYN, I have been providing the full spectrum of reproductive health care in Hawai'i for over 20 years. I strongly support SB 2845.

Health care is a right, and people deserve to access healthcare without being harassed or intimidated. As a provider, I have personally had to walk through protestors outside of healthcare clinics. I get intimidated at times. One of our providers had the scary experience of a protestor jumping on her car as she was exiting the property.

Health decisions related to pregnancy and bodily autonomy are deeply personal and deserve to be made in safe, confidential clinical environments. As physicians, we trust our patients to make the decisions that are right for their lives and families, and we have an ethical responsibility to ensure they can do so safely.

Please pass SB 2845.

Mahalo

Reni Soon, MD MPH

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/12/2026 5:03:05 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
HSDWC	Testifying for Hawaii State Democratic Women's Caucused	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair McKelvey and Members

The Caucus is in strong support of this measure.

RE: Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of SB 2845 Relating to Health Care

This measure if passed would prohibit persons from interfering with another person's access to or from a health care facility or disrupting the normal functioning of a health care facility.

Protesters continue to harass patients and providers at Planned Parenthood health centers, especially in Honolulu. Anti-Choice protesters are engaged in violence against women seeking health care at PP. They lean on patients' and providers' cars, yell slurs, and stand in front of patient vehicles to prevent safe access entering and exiting the clinic.

All this plus the decimation of PP offices across the islands, has resulted in reduced or total lack of access to necessary standards of practice health care for the wahine of our islands.

This is a travesty, Hawai'i needs to give law enforcement more tools to provide women safe passage to their health care centers.

Please pass soonest,

Mahalo,

Ann S. Freed, Co-Chair, for HSDWC

**LATE**

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/12/2026 1:52:33 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rena Hamilton	Testifying for YWCA of Kauai	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill protects access by making it illegal to block clinic entrances, threaten patients or staff, or interfere with a health care facility. It ensures law enforcement can step in when access is disrupted. No one should face intimidation or obstruction just to get medical care. Hawai'i needs clear legal protections so law enforcement can step in when access to health care is blocked or patients are being harassed. These incidents are not isolated. Abortion and gender-affirming care providers across the country regularly face harassment, vandalism, threats, and violence.

*Over the past several decades, and especially since the overturn of Roe, incidents of violence have continuously increased. This includes vandalism, assault and battery, threats of harm or death threats, stalking, harassment, and in the most extreme cases, murder of individual abortion providers.*

*We are asking the state legislature to enhance protections for health care facilities — including patients and providers — from protestors by giving law enforcement the tools they need to intervene.*

**LATE**

TO: Committee on Health and Human Services  
Sen. Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair  
Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Vice Chair  
DATE: Thursday February 12, 2026  
PLACE: Hawaii State Capitol CR225  
FROM: Elaine Chan, MD

**Re: SB2845 Relating to Healthcare: Health Care Facilities; Interference; Disruption; Petty Misdemeanor; Private Right of Action; Civil Remedies; Criminal Penalties; Attorney General**

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and honorable Committee Members,

I am a practicing obstetrician-gynecologist in Hawaii who performs full spectrum reproductive care, including abortions for patients across the islands and I am urging you to **support** SB2845.

By the time patients have reached me, they have already encountered countless hurdles before arriving to the building, including financial, transportation, cultural, religious, personal considerations. The last thing they need is to be physically obstructed from entering the building.

Importantly, the impact of these demonstrations is not limited to patients alone. Health care workers — physicians, nurses, medical assistants, social workers, and administrative staff — are also routinely subjected to intimidation, verbal harassment, filming without consent, and threats as they enter and exit their workplaces. This contributes to a climate of fear and burnout within a workforce already experiencing critical shortages.

Legislation such as SB2845 is not about restricting speech or limiting peaceful expression. Rather, it is about establishing reasonable boundaries that protect the safety, privacy, and dignity of patients and the health care professionals who serve them. No individual seeking medical care — whether for prenatal services, miscarriage management, contraception, or abortion — should have to navigate harassment, misinformation, or intimidation at the doors of a health facility. Likewise, no clinician or staff member should fear for their personal safety simply for providing lawful, evidence-based medical care.

Health care decisions, particularly those involving pregnancy and bodily autonomy, are deeply personal and often time sensitive. They deserve to be made in consultation with qualified medical professionals in environments that are calm, confidential, and free from coercion. We trust our patients to make the decisions that are right for their lives and families, and we have an ethical obligation to ensure that when they entrust us with their care, they can do so in settings that are safe, supportive, and respectful.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony and for your continued commitment to advancing equitable, evidence-based health care for the people of Hawai'i.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Chan, MD

Testimony in SUPPORT of SB2845  
Introduced by KIDANI, CHANG, DECOITE, FUKUNAGA, HASHIMOTO, INOUYE,  
KEOHOKALOOLE, MCKELVEY, MORIWAKI

Aloha chair, vice chair, and committee members,

I am writing in SUPPORT of SB2845, which would protect and support patients and providers' right to safe access to healthcare facilities. Hawai'i is known for its generally liberal leaning healthcare system, which has provided care to people of all backgrounds, identities, and medical history. As a m̄hū kane myself, the healthcare system here has quite literally saved my life. The gender affirming care, alongside general mental physical healthcare, I receive has allowed me to not just survive, but actually live my life in a sustainable way.

As a chicano, I grew up on the border. I've seen firsthand poor healthcare legislation that impacts access. I was in Texas when Roe v Wade was overturned, and I spent years without gender affirming care because of the state government ideologies and lack of protections. Legislation that protects a person's ability to not only access care, but to simply enter the healthcare facilities they need, is VITAL for upholding the values of Hawai'i the people have worked tirelessly to upkeep.

This is an issue that the state should be addressing. At the Honolulu Planned Parenthood health center, protesters have blocked driveways, leaned on vehicles, and shouted slurs at patients and staff. This not only instills fear in patients and providers, it can completely deter folks from seeking out care vital for their wellbeing. This impacts mental and physical health, and can lead to higher rates of poor health, addiction issues, and even suicide rates.

This bill will protect ALL healthcare facilities, and every patient seeking care throughout the state. I urge you to pass this bill.

Mahalo,

Lennie Espinoza

**LATE**

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/12/2026 6:58:33 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
john savino	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB 2845

please add bills on no ICE ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

NO ICE ON CHURCH PROPERTY

NO ICE ON COURT PROPERTY

**LATE**

**Julia Jay Testimony SB2845**

Every person deserves access to health care safely, with dignity, and without fear. Unfortunately, this is not always the case. Over the past several decades — and especially since the overturning of Roe — incidents of violence and harassment at reproductive health care facilities have increased. This includes vandalism, assault and battery, threats of harm, stalking, harassment, and in the most extreme cases, the murder of abortion providers.

I have personally witnessed the hostile environment that surrounds access to care. On multiple occasions while driving to Planned Parenthood to volunteer, I have had individuals stand in front of my vehicle and attempt to block my entrance into the facility. I have had vulgar and crude remarks yelled at me simply for entering a health care center. I have watched protestors hold graphic and disturbing signs meant to intimidate and shame patients and providers.

No one — not patients, not staff, not volunteers — should have to navigate physical obstruction, harassment, or intimidation in order to access or provide legal medical care. Regardless of one's personal beliefs, intimidation and interference have no place in health care settings.

We are asking the legislature to enhance protections for health care facilities, including patients and providers, and to give law enforcement the clear authority and tools they need to intervene when access is obstructed. Protecting access to care is not about politics — it is about safety, dignity, and ensuring that all people can receive medical services without fear.

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to protecting the health and safety of our communities.

-Julia Jay

**LATE**

**SB-2845**

Submitted on: 2/12/2026 10:58:30 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2026 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Brett Kulbis	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Chair San Buenaventura and Committee Members,

My name is Brett Kulbis, I'm a 26yr retired Navy Veteran, who took a solemn oath to defend the Constitution from all enemies foreign and domestic, and that oath didn't expire when I retired. I live in Ewa Beach.

I STRONGLY OPPOSE BILL SB-2845.

SB-2845 poses serious risks to core constitutional rights, to free speech and peaceful assembly under the First Amendment. By making it unlawful to “interfere” with access to or “disrupt” the normal functioning of a health care facility through broad categories of conduct, the bill sweeps in expressive activity—such as praying, holding signs, or speaking with willing listeners on public sidewalks—that has long been recognized as protected speech in traditional public forums. The terms “interfere,” “disrupt,” and “unreasonably disturbs the peace” are vague and overbroad, inviting arbitrary and discriminatory enforcement against disfavored viewpoints and exposing ordinary citizens to criminal prosecution and civil suit simply because someone inside the facility finds their message unwelcome.

SB-2845 also creates a powerful set of penalties that will chill protected expression. It imposes mandatory jail time even for a first petty-misdemeanor offense and allows facilities, employees, and property owners to sue without proving actual damages, while authorizing enhanced per-day damages and attorney’s fees. When combined with the statute’s vague standards, these provisions effectively deter citizens from engaging in peaceful advocacy near health care facilities out of fear that their speech may later be characterized as “reckless interference” or “disruption.” This kind of chilling effect on speech around matters of profound public concern—such as life, health care policy, and morality—cuts against the strong constitutional protection that political and religious expression is supposed to receive.

Finally, SB-2845 is structurally unbalanced in a way that raises additional constitutional concerns. It expressly exempts “actions taken as part of a labor demonstration or when exercising the right to strike,” meaning labor-related picketing enjoys a statutory safe harbor that is denied to other speakers at the very same locations. By shielding one category of protest while exposing others to enhanced criminal and civil liability, the bill invites viewpoint or speaker-based discrimination in practice. The government may regulate truly obstructive or

violent conduct in a content-neutral manner, but it may not selectively burden disfavored speech while protecting favored protest activity.

For these reasons, I urge you to defer indefinitely SB-2845.

Respectfully,

Brett Kulbis