



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

OFFICE OF YOUTH SERVICES
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January 28, 2008

TO: The Honorable Norman Sakamoto, Chair
Senate Committee on Education

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

FROM: Martha T. Torney, Executive Director

SUBJECT: SB 2242 RELATING TO NON-SCHOOL HOUR PROGRAMS
Hearing: Monday, January 28, 2008, 1:15 pm
State Capitol, Conference Room 225

POSITION:

The Office of Youth Service (OYS) recognizes the importance of structured programs and activities during the non-school hours for children and youth to prevent or reduce the risk of delinquent and problem behaviors and to establish and strengthen protective factors for those children and youth. The OYS has supported such activities through its funding of community-based agencies and programs that strive to establish safe, nurturing environments during non-school hours to develop competencies that enable them to achieve successful transition to young adulthood.

The OYS is currently funding ten (10) agencies to provide non-school hour programs for youth statewide with funding appropriated by Act 281/SLH 2006. The funded programs include a variety of activities, including home work assistance, video and music projects, fitness activities, interpersonal skills trainings, community service opportunities and intergenerational mentoring. The OYS collaborated with the Department of Education and City and County of Honolulu Parks and Recreation to plan for implementation of services.

Testimony of the Office of Youth Services on SB 2242
For the Senate Committee on Education and Senate Committee on Human Services and
Public Housing
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We appreciate the over-all concept of this bill as it includes initiatives supportive of our goals and objectives, but we are concerned about the cost implications generated by this proposal.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

Date of Hearing: January 28, 2006

L A T E

Committee: Senate Human Services and
Public Housing/Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Patricia Hamamoto, Superintendent

Title: S.B. No. 2242, DOE; Non-School-Hour Programs; Task Force;
Coordinator; Appropriation

Purpose: Establishes a task force on non-school hour programs to review
and improve the State's current non-school-hour activities
programs. Appropriates funds for non-school-hour activities
and for a program coordinator.

Department's Position: The Department of Education (Department) supports the
SB 2242. However, it should be noted that the Department has
already established a Non-School Hour Educational Specialist
II position which is in place to coordinate the Department's
Non-School Hour programs.

The Department already collaborates with the Departments of
Human Services and Parks and Recreation in the coordination
of Non-School Hour programs. The Department currently has
a Request for Facilities Use procedure already in place and
works with community agencies and students in all aspects of
program planning, implementation and evaluation of the
current non-school hour programs. Thus, the Department
believes that this Bill may not be necessary at this time.

Funding for this measure should not displace the formally presented priorities of the Board of Education.