




COALITION FOR A
TOBACCO-FREE HAWAII

To: Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair, Judiciary & Government Operations Cmte
Senator Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair, Judiciary & Government Operations Cmte
Members, Senate Committee on Judiciary & Government Operations
From: Trisha Y. Nakamura, Policy and Advocacy Director 
Date: February 25, 2009
Hrg: Senate Committee on Judiciary & Government Operations; February 26, 2009, 9:00 a.m.
Re: **Support for SB 1040 SD 1, Relating to Smoking**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 1040 SD 1 which prohibits smoking during a community event on public beaches, parks, and recreational areas as well as the areas within 20 feet of the nonsmoking area. We urge you to pass this measure out of committee.

The Coalition for a Tobacco Free Hawaii (Coalition) is the only independent organization in Hawaii whose sole mission is to reduce tobacco use through education, policy and advocacy. Our organization is a small nonprofit organization of over 3,000 organizations and individuals that works to create a healthy Hawaii through comprehensive tobacco prevention and control efforts.

The Coalition worked hard in 2006 to pass the Smoke-Free Law; 85% of Hawai'i residents favor the Smoke-Free Law. Tobacco-Free Big Island, one of our local coalition partners, led the movement on the Big Island to create Smoke-Free Parks and Beaches which led to the passage of Hawai'i County Ordinance 08-56 in 2008. These laws have helped to change social norms. Our young people are growing up in a Hawai'i that promotes health by ensuring children and families are protected from second-hand smoke.

The bill at hand is an opportunity to create smoke-free areas at community events for our children and families to enjoy free of dangerous second-hand smoke. The public will be able to enjoy state or county funded functions at public beaches, parks, and recreational areas without smoke interfering with their enjoyment of the event. The law will allow many individuals who suffer from lung disease the ability, perhaps for the first time in a long time, to attend community events without worry about asthma or an emphysema attack because of second-hand smoke.

Social research indicates that children perceive what is acceptable and what they ought to do from what they understand is a normative behavior in a community. Including community events at public beaches, parks, and recreational areas in the Smoke-Free Law will eventually lead to a norm expectation of smoke-free events by children and others who use these facilities. We look forward to passage of this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

From: Michael758 [michael808a@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2009 10:22 PM
To: JGO Testimony
Subject: testimony for SB1040

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair

DATE: Thursday, February 26, 2009
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 016

**SB10140 - Relating to banning people who smoke from enjoying outdoor public events
POSITION; STRONGLY OPPOSED,**

This measure is mean-spirited, unfair, and unenforceable. This measure will make residents and visitors not want to come events here in Hawaii. Please vote no to this bigoted and fundamentally flawed social engineering scheme. Let's show Aloha to all.

Mahalo, Michael Zehner
Honolulu, HI
952-2075