



Hearing date:  
**Monday,**  
**January 25,**  
**2010, 8:30 a.m.**  
House Human  
Services  
Committee  
Room 329

To: Representative John Mizuno, Chair  
Representative Tom Brower, Vice Chair  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

From: Elisabeth Chun, Executive Director  
Good Beginnings Alliance

Date: Monday, January 25, 2010, 8:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 329

Subject: **HB1957:** Authorizes holding public events that celebrate Children and Youth Day to be held on state capitol grounds.

The Good Beginnings Alliance is a nonprofit policy and advocacy organization focused on Hawaii's youngest children and their families. We strive to ensure a nurturing, safe and healthy development for all children from pre-birth to age eight. We believe all children deserve safe and supportive environments that meet their needs as they grow and develop. Good Beginnings Alliance has been actively working as a planning committee member and fiscal agent for Children and Youth Day for the last three years.

We strongly support this bill. Children and Youth Day has been a huge success with almost 40,000 children and family members attending each year. We have had over 300 organizations participating, and the state capitol makes an ideal location to hold this event due to its centrality, parking availability, and access via the bus.

Mahalo for your support. For more information contact: Good Beginnings Alliance; phone: 531-5502; [lchun@goodbeginnings.org](mailto:lchun@goodbeginnings.org).

Sincerely,

Elisabeth Chun  
Executive Director



**HEADQUARTERS**  
**66<sup>TH</sup> COMPOSITE SQUADRON**  
**CIVIL AIR PATROL**  
United States Air Force Auxiliary  
10 Hickam Ct., Bldg. 2094  
Hickam AFB, HI 96853



25 January 2010

Testimony before the Committee of Human Services, January 25, 2010

Strongly Support for House Bill 1957

Chair John Mizuno, Vice Chair Brower, and members of the Committee, my name is Carswell Ross and I am the commander of the 66<sup>th</sup> Composite Squadron (Civil Air Patrol (CAP) located on Hickam AFB Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 1957-Relating to Children and Youth.

The Hawaii Wing Civil Air Patrol has participated in the Children and Youth Day event over the past several years. Our organization is composed of over 500 senior and cadet members in the State of Hawaii. My squadron has 50 cadets, youth between the ages of 12 through 21, and 48 senior members. Our missions are to provide Emergency Services, Search and Rescue, and Disaster Relief to the State of Hawaii, as well as Aerospace Education and training to members of the community including our Cadet and Senior Members. We also provide cadet training for students from the sixth grade to the age of 21. This includes leadership training, aerospace and flight aptitude training, and character building and development in accordance to US military standards. Although we are dressed in Military uniforms, training gained through CAP participation can be used in civilian activities as well.

Children and Youth Day provides our Cadet Members with community service training and increased their awareness to other beneficial youth programs in the State of Hawaii. As this event is held on the State Capitol grounds, it familiarizes our youth with their capitol and demonstrates, in a real way, that it is a place for the people of Hawaii to meet and encourages involvement.

It is fitting that Children and Youth is held on the grounds of the State Capitol a gathering place for the community of Hawaii.

I strongly urge the committee to support this measure.

*Carswell J. Ross, Jr.*

Carswell J. Ross, Jr., Lt Col CAP  
66<sup>th</sup> Composite Squadron, Commander

## **brower1-Traci**

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**From:** Deborah Clevenger [clevenger.deborah@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 22, 2010 11:50 PM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Subject:** Support of House Bill 1957

Support of House Bill 1957

Chair John Mizuno, Vice Chair Brower, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 1957-Relating to Children and Youth. As a member of the Hawaii Wing Civil Air Patrol, I strongly support this measure.

The Hawaii Wing Civil Air Patrol has participated in the Children and Youth Day event over the past several years. Our organization is composed of over 500 senior and cadet members in the State of Hawaii. We provide Emergency Services, Search and Rescue, and Disaster Relief to the State of Hawaii, as well as Aerospace Education and training to members of the community including our Cadet and Senior Members. We also provide cadet training for students from the sixth grade to the age of 21. This includes leadership training, aerospace and flight aptitude training, and character building and development in accordance to US military standards.

A community oriented event like Children and Youth Day provides our Cadet Members community service training and increased awareness to other beneficial programs in the State of Hawaii. With the success of Children and Youth Day for the past 16 years, its high attendance and participation, it is beneficial for the State of Hawaii to hold Children and Youth Day at the State Capitol--a true place for the community of Hawaii.

I strongly urge the committee to support this measure.

Respectfully submitted

Deborah Clevenger, 2 Lt.  
6826 A 111th Street  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

Hawaii Wing Civil Air Patrol Member

Testimony in support of HB 1957 Relating to Children and Youth  
Hearing: Monday, January 25, 2010  
8:30 a.m. Conference Room 329

To: Committee on Human Services  
Chair: Representative John M. Mizuno  
Vice Chair: Representative Tom Brower

From: Mae Mendelson  
Member: International Advisory Board, World Youth Congress  
Professor of Intergenerational Studies in Residence,  
Chaminade University of Honolulu

I am not speaking in any official capacity but as a resident deeply committed to continued support to Children and Youth Day and the events throughout the month of October that have evolved around this day. Children and Youth Day should continue to be held on the state capitol grounds as a symbol of our state's commitment to the present health, education and welfare of our children and youth and to a promise to ensure that, in our rapidly aging society, we do not forget that the greatest legacy any of us can leave is a bright future for our children.

Over a decade ago, the state made a commitment to our children through a state wide planning process called Ke Ala Hoku that included a Children's Vision for Hawai'i created by over 5,000 children and youth. That vision was presented to and accepted by the State Legislature. Underlying that vision was the belief that young people must be engaged in government and community activities in meaningful ways so that they would be given the skills and opportunities to make a positive difference in the future of the state and possibly the globe.

I thank you for considering this brief but heartfelt testimony. It is little to ask that once a year we take the time to have a public celebration with our families of how grateful we are for the children and young people who will carry on all that we have built and cherished about Hawai'i. Thank you.



House HUS committee  
Monday, Jan 25, 2010  
8:30 am  
Room 329

National Association of Social Workers

Hawaii Chapter

January 24, 2010

TO: Rep. John Mizuno, Chair  
And members of the House Human Services Committee

FROM: Debbie Shimizu, LSW  
National Association of Social Workers, Hawaii Chapter

RE: HB 1957 Relating to Children and Youth Day

Chair Mizuno and members of the House Human Services Committee, I am Debbie Shimizu, Executive Director of the National Association of Social Workers, Hawaii Chapter (NASW). I am testifying in **SUPPORT of HB 1957 Relating to Children and Youth Day.**

In October 2009, we participated in the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Children and Youth Day. I remember my daughter participating in the very first Children and Youth Day when she was 5 years old. It was a small event with one tent but it was a wonderful time to enjoy doing child friendly activities. Children and Youth Day is an event that encourages families to come to the State Capitol and participate in free, educational activities with their children. Over the years it has grown and now over 35,000 children, youth and adults are drawn to the Capitol grounds to participate in this day of fun.

In 2009, the state comptroller had concerns about the event being held on the State Capitol grounds because of the "carnival" type atmosphere and it was not the appropriate image for the State Capitol. However, I disagree, the Capitol is the "people's house". Many public citizens do not come to the building during the legislative session but they come for Children and Youth Day. They are not only able to participate in many activities provided by community agencies, but they are able to take tours of the State Capitol, Iolani Palace, Washington Place and the other buildings around the Capitol. It is a place where people should come and feel comfortable. If Children and Youth Day is held at the Capitol, then isn't it wonderful that our children and youth will grow up having fond memories of the Capitol and they will not be afraid of coming here and hopefully will be encouraged to participate in legislative activities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



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I strongly urge the committee to support this measure.

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