



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
919 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD, ROOM 113
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543
April 2, 2012

The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
The Honorable Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair
House Committee on Health
Twenty-Sixth Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Representatives Yamane and Morikawa and Members of the Committee:


SUBJECT: HCR 165 – URGING ALCOHOL RETAILERS AND LICENSED PREMISES UNDER CHAPTER 281, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES TO POST A SIGN IN OR ABOUT THE PREMISES WARNING WOMEN NOT TO DRINK ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DURING PREGANCY AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS TO PROVIDE STATEWIDE TRAINING ON FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER PREVENTION, IDENTIFICATION AND INTERVENTIONS.

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities **SUPPORTS HCR 165**. This concurrent resolution would urge alcohol retailers and premises licensed under Chapter 281, Hawaii Revised Statutes to post a sign in or about the premises about the risks of birth defects and fetal alcohol syndrome (FAS) from drinking alcohol during pregnancy and the Department of Health to continue its statewide training on FAS. The passage of HCR 165 would provide a mechanism to promote education and outreach to prevent birth defects and FAS associated with alcohol consumption during pregnancy. The cost factors involved in treating individuals affected by FAS far outweigh the costs of posting warning signs to educate customers about the risk of drinking during pregnancy.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HCR 165.

Sincerely,


Liz Ann Salvador
Chair


Waynette K.Y. Cabral, MSW
Executive Administrator



HILOPA'A

Family to Family Health Information Center

Date: April 1, 2012

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair

Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

Fr: Leolinda Parlin, State Coordinator for Family Voices of Hawai'i

Re: **SUPPORT** – HCR165 URGING ALCOHOL RETAILERS AND LICENSED PREMISES UNDER CHAPTER 281, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES, TO POST A SIGN IN OR ABOUT THE PREMISES WARNING WOMEN NOT TO DRINK ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DURING PREGNANCY AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS TO PROVIDE STATEWIDE TRAINING ON FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER PREVENTION, IDENTIFICATION, AND INTERVENTIONS.

On behalf of Family Voices of Hawai'i, I offer testimony in **support** of HCR165 – which seeks signage warning women not to drink alcohol during pregnancy and to encourage the Department of Health to continue it's leadership in Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) training. Family Voices is national grass roots organization of family of friends of child with special health care needs. In Hawai'i, we operate the federally funded Hilopa'a Family to Family Health Information Center (F2FHIC).

FASD or Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder is the number one preventable developmental disability. This disorder would not occur in the absence of alcohol in a woman's blood stream at the time of conception or during pregnancy.

Access to the already mandated signage on beverage containers is not always available in retail establishments as the beverages may be dispensed in vessels other than the original beverage containers.

FASD prevention should be a priority for our state. Our cultural values perpetuate for the role of children as in integral part of our community. By providing information, increased awareness and training on the effects of FASD, we can work together to prevent children from having to suffer the effects of fetal alcohol exposure.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of HCR165.