



the  
**Drug Policy**  
**Forum**  
of hawai'i

**LIVE TESTIMONY**

February 24, 2011

To: Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair and  
Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor

From: **Jeanne Y. Ohta, Executive Director**

RE: **SB 110** SD1 Relating to Intoxicating Liquor Violations Involving Minors  
Hearing: Thursday, February 24, 2011, 9:00 a.m., Room 016

Position: Support

The **Drug Policy Forum of Hawai'i** writes in support of this measure.

This measure recognizes that many alcohol-related incidences occur when minors are in groups of close friends or acquaintances. Providing limited legal immunity encourages those minors present at the time of a medical emergency to call for help immediately.

Minors are often afraid of arrest even in cases when their friends or family need professional medical assistance. They may try other methods to revive the victim instead of calling 911.

The U.S. Conference of Mayors (2008) adopted a resolution which supports the establishment of Good Samaritan policies to reduce the number of preventable overdose deaths.

The measure puts the focus on saving lives and preventing deaths rather than on arresting victims and their friends for drinking alcohol.

This measure is sensible public policy which can help save lives.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2011 1:02 PM  
**To:** JDLTestimony  
**Cc:** web@cartoonistforchrist.org  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB110 on 2/24/2011 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for JDL 2/24/2011 9:00:00 AM SB110

Conference room: 016  
Testifier position: oppose  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Lee McIntosh  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [web@cartoonistforchrist.org](mailto:web@cartoonistforchrist.org)  
Submitted on: 2/23/2011

Comments:

Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

Aloha, my name is Lee McIntosh. I live in Kau on the Big Island. I am not in favor of SB 110, which provides immunity to minors seeking medical attention for an intoxicated minor. This bill removes individual responsibility for minors knowingly breaking the law, and gives the false impression that it is acceptable for minors to drink. Minors will abuse SB 110 by using it as their get-out-of-jail free card if anything happens, which is not the message that we want to send to our youth. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 110.