

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: Brenda.Kosky@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2121 on 2/24/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Thursday, February 23, 2012 7:28:46 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/24/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2121

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Brenda Kosky
Organization: Individual
E-mail: Brenda.Kosky@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/23/2012

Comments:

Sorry, I have had a long day, I strongly oppose to this bill. All we need is anyone in the world deciding that anyone else in the world should be committed, and being able to do just that.

Once again please forgive my mistake, if I knew how to retrieve and change it I would, I just don't have that working knowledge at the moment.

Sorry, have a great day, you are all doing an awesome job at your work!!! Aloha, Brenda Kosky

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
February 24, 2012
9:00 a.m.
Room 211

Re: SB 2121, SD1, Relating to Mental Health

On behalf of Kāhi Mōhala Behavioral Health, we are writing in support of SB 2121, SD1, relating to Mental Health.

SB 2121, SD1, would permit any interested person, as defined under section 334-1, HRS, to file a written petition for emergency admission and it would make other changes relevant to our provision of mental health services in the state.

We believe that this measure is an important step for the benefit of the community and we hope to continue to be positively engaged in discussions about it and other important mental health policy issues as the legislative session progresses.

Kāhi Mōhala Behavioral Health is a center for health care services. Kāhi Mōhala embraces an inter-disciplinary approach to services, incorporating an integrative perspective in emotional, physical, cognitive and behavioral health care treatment. The Kāhi Mōhala C.A.R.E.S. philosophy (Culture of Aloha, Relationship Based, and Environment of Safety) enhances excellence of care by incorporating the feedback of both patients and staff in developing the most positive healing environment.

Kāhi Mōhala's 88-bed facility is located on 14.5 acres on the rural west side on the island of Oahu. It is Hawaii's only freestanding, community-based, not-for-profit psychiatric hospital; serving the needs of not only individuals and families in Hawaii, but also those throughout the Pacific Rim. Kahi Mohala is accredited by The Joint Commission, certified by TRICARE and Medicare/Medicaid.

Kāhi Mōhala Behavioral Health
91-2301 Old Fort Weaver Road
Ewa Beach, HI 96706



NAMI Hawaii State

Hawaii's Voice on Mental Illness

An Affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness
770 Kapiolani Blvd #613 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Phone 808.591.1297 • Fax 808.591.205
info@namihawaii.org • www.namihawaii.org



Board of Directors

PRESIDENT

Ann Collins

VICE-PRESIDENT/ NATIONAL CONSUMER COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Randolph Hack

VICE-PRESIDENT

Fredda Sullam

TREASURER

Carol Kozlovich

SECRETARY

Patricia Underwood,

DIRECTORS

Sylvia Baldwin
Robert Collesano
Shirley Davenport
Carol Denis
Ann Emura
Earleen Keliikuli-Fuentes
Carol Kozlovich
Denis Mee-Lee
Kathleen R. Merriam
Michele Morales
Hali Robinette
Allyson Tanouye
Sharon Yokote
Kate Zhou



Staff

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Kathleen Hasegawa

Testimony in Support of SB2121SD1 Relating to Mental Health

Committee on Ways and Means

Friday, February 24, 2012 9 a.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 211

The National Alliance on Mental Illness, Hawaii State Chapter, supports this bill which would allow "interested parties" to file a written petition for the emergency admission of a person to a psychiatric facility.

Every day NAMI receives telephone calls from family members of people who are gravely ill. These family members are desperate because they are unable to assist their loved one to receive treatment. Rather they must watch the mental health of someone they love or deeply care about deteriorate on a daily basis. Frequently the ill family member's condition leads them to become homeless and sometimes physical complications come into play.

A person with a mental illness is just that, a person with a brain disease. When a person receives treatment for a mental illness when it first manifests itself and continues to receive treatment at times that the disease recurs the better the long term prognosis is for that person. Likewise, The longer or more frequently the disease goes untreated the more the likelihood that the persons prognosis will worsen.

NAMI Hawaii believes that the measures in this bill are sufficient to guarantee that only persons who are indeed severely mentally ill will be treated. The important issue is that those people with serious mental illnesses, who because of their illness don't realize that they are ill, be able to receive treatment.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kathleen Hasegawa

Executive Director



Aloha United Way

An Aloha United Way
Partner Agency and
Combined Federal
Campaign Member