

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



PATRICIA McMANAMAN
DIRECTOR

BARBARA A. YAMASHITA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809

March 29, 2012

TO: The Honorable Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
House Committee on Finance

FROM: Patricia McManaman, Director

SUBJECT: **S.B. 2579, S.D. 2, H.D. 2 - RELATING TO MINORS**

Hearing: Thursday, March 29, 2012, 4:30 p.m.
Conference Room 308, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purpose of S.B 2579, S. D. 2, H.D.2, is to create a new chapter for the safe harbor of sexually exploited children; expand the scope of the domestic violence and sexual assault special fund annual report; extend the jurisdiction of the family court; amend the statute of limitations; and exempt a minor suspect charged with prostitution from prosecution while subjecting that minor to the provision of the new safe harbor for sexually exploited children chapter.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) appreciates the intent of the bill to provide protections and services for sexually exploited children. While the Department agrees that this is a population that needs services, we must respectfully oppose the proposal.

Currently, law enforcement and other mandatory reporters refer cases to Child Welfare Services (CWS) involving the abuse and neglect of children. In those situations where a sexually exploited child is referred to the CWS, we first determine whether the

child's parents/guardians are willing and able to provide a safe home. Where the parents/guardians are able to provide a safe home, the child will be returned. Under this scenario, the parents/guardian will determine the extent and scope of services their child requires. Rightfully so, the State should play no role in determining the scope of those services. In those situations, however, where the child is unable to return safely to his/her home, the CWS will assume jurisdiction over the minor and initiate proceedings in the Family Court.

The Department already partners with law enforcement agencies, county prosecutor's offices, and others to ensure the safety and well-being of sexually exploited children. By way of example, the Sex Abuse Treatment Center [SATC] of the Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women and Children currently provides effective sex abuse treatment services for children; provides 24/7 on-call crisis intervention with immediate attention; information and referral services; medical-legal examinations; therapy, case management and legal interventions; and prevention and education. SATC services include interaction and referral to DHS Child Protective Services, as warranted.

Should the Department be required to provide the services as proposed, CWS will require additional, specially trained, staff for intake, emergency response, assessment and case management services, as well as, the program support for this component. Conservatively, CWS would require additional funding of approximately \$410,000 to support the payroll, fringe and other current expenses for these staff.

In short, this measure would place demands on the Department that could not be met with our limited resources without substantial additional funding for staff, training, outreach and education and housing.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



LORETTA J. FUDDY, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

House Committee on Finance

S.B. 2579, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, Relating to Minors

**Testimony of Loretta J. Fuddy, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.
Director of Health**

March 29, 2012

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health (DOH) appreciates the intent of S.B. 2579, S.D.2,
2 H.D.2 to provide services for the sexually exploited minors; however, we do not support Section 2 of the
3 measure which proposes to amend HRS Section 321-1.3 (d) (2) by expanding the scope of the Domestic
4 Violence and Sexual Assault Special Fund (DVSASF) annual report to the Legislature to include
5 promoting prostitution in the first degree and sexual trafficking.

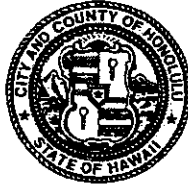
6 **Fiscal Implications:** The DOH does not have the resources, including staff with an expertise in human
7 trafficking, to carry out this portion of the measure.

8 **Purpose and Justification:** The DOH does not have the expertise or the resources to provide
9 recommendations to address prostitution or sex-trafficking. The DOH would like to respectfully defer
10 other sections of this measure to the Department of Human Services as these sections do not fall within
11 the responsibilities and functions of the DOH.

12 Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET · HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 529-3111 · INTERNET: www.honolulu-pd.org



PETER B. CARLISLE
MAYOR

LOUIS M. KEALOHA
CHIEF

DAVE M. KAJIHIRO
MARIE A. McCAULEY
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE JM-TA

March 29, 2012

The Honorable Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
and Members
Committee on Finance
House of Representatives
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 2579, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, Relating to Minors

I am John McEntire, Major of the Narcotics/Vice Division of the Honolulu Police Department, City and County of Honolulu.

The Honolulu Police Department opposes Senate Bill No. 2579, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, Relating to Minors.

Although we support the intent of providing child welfare services, counseling, and other assistance to juveniles who have been sexually exploited, we do not feel that it is in the best interest of those juveniles or to the community in general to issue immunity from prosecution. One of the main reasons for protecting juveniles is that they often lack the maturity to make the best decisions regarding their personal welfare. The proposal has the effect of legalizing prostitution on their part; this hardly sends the right message to Hawaii's at-risk youth. Furthermore, exempting juveniles from prosecution may limit the police officer's ability to intervene on the child's behalf if there are no other apparent criminal or status offenses.

We do believe there will be cases where prosecution is not appropriate due to the victimization of the juvenile. However, this needs to be decided on a case-by-case basis, so the Family Court can make a determination of the best course of action for the juvenile.

The Honorable Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
and Members
Page 2
March 29, 2012

We strongly urge you to oppose Senate Bill No. 2579, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, Relating to Minors.

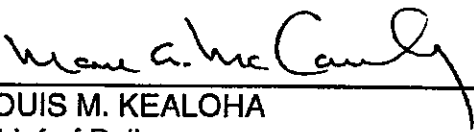
Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



JOHN McENTIRE, Major
Narcotics/Vice Division

APPROVED:



for LOUIS M. KEALOHA
Chief of Police

DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

ALII PLACE
1060 RICHARDS STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 547-7400 • FAX: (808) 547-7515

KEITH M. KANESHIRO
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

ARMINA A. CHING
FIRST DEPUTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



**THE HONORABLE MARCUS R. OSHIRO, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

**THE HONORABLE MARILYN B. LEE, VICE CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

**Twenty-sixth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2012
State of Hawai'i**

March 29, 2012

RE: S.B. 2579, S.D. 2, H.D. 2; RELATING TO MINORS

Chair Oshiro, and members of the House Committee on Finance, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, City and County of Honolulu, submits the following testimony **in regard to Senate Bill 2579, S.D. 2, H.D. 2**. We will provide separate comments on each Section of the Bill as some have merit, others do not, and there are some for which we will take no position.

Our Department takes no position on Section 1, Subsection 1 of the bill except for commenting that we are not in agreement with the purpose that all minors should be automatically exempted from prosecution under H.R.S Chapter 712-1200. As to the stated priority in this section that family unity should be the primary objective of the Department of Human Services in providing services in this section, we believe that the safety and well being of children should always be primary. Family reunification should always take a back seat to protecting children.

Establishment of services for children who are victims of "sexual exploitation" as provided for in Subsections 3 and 4 is laudable, but may be too specifically and narrowly drawn to match up with the reality and practicality of the current resources of the Department of Human Services.

We strongly object to the provisions of Section 3, 4, and 5 of the bill providing for the law enforcement detention of juveniles suspected of prostitution offenses, but exempting them from prosecution. The law enforcement detention provisions appear to be too broad and vague and may possibly create a negative instead of a positive impact on those individuals that this provision is intended to benefit. As to a blanket prohibition against the prosecution of juveniles for prostitution offenses we believe this to be unwise and counterproductive. We believe that existing Family Court procedures and resources such as Girls Court have adequate flexibility to administratively accomplish what appears to be intended by this bill. We also have grave reservations about prohibiting prosecutors and the Family Court from addressing the merits of individual case as deemed appropriate by the specific circumstances of each offense and the needs of individual offenders. We are also not satisfied that the exemption of juveniles from prosecution for prostitution offenses will not create a perverse incentive for the employment of juveniles in prostitution. To believe that pimps, who are notorious for their sophisticated manipulation of minors into prostitution, will not utilize the promise of a lack of criminal consequences as an incentive for engaging in prostitution is naive and unrealistic. Even some of the advocates for juvenile victims of prostitution have expressed reservations and skepticism on this point.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on **S.B. 2579, S.D 2, H.D. 2.**



46-063 Emepela Pl. #U101 Kaneohe, HI 96744 · (808) 679-7454 · Kris Coffield · Co-founder/Legislative Director

**TESTIMONY FOR SENATE BILL 2579, SENATE DRAFT 2, HOUSE DRAFT 2,
RELATING TO MINORS**

**House Committee on Finance
Hon. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Hon. Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair**

**Thursday, March 29, 2012, 4:30 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308**

Honorable Chair Oshiro and committee members:

I am Kris Coffield, representing the IMU Alliance, a nonpartisan political advocacy organization that currently boasts over 150 local members. On behalf of our members, we offer this testimony in support, with proposed amendments for SB 2579, SD2, HD1, relating to minors.

Last year, lawmakers passed HB 141 and HB 240, the former of which outlawed labor trafficking in the islands and the latter of which strengthened existing anti-prostitution laws by expanding witness protection for victims and targeting repeat offenders, particularly pimps and johns. Both bills were important steps in rectifying Hawaii's poor image and record with regard to anti-trafficking statutes. Importantly, these new laws focus on demand for labor and sex trafficking, signaling our state's move toward combating those most responsible for trafficking violations—pimps, johns, owners and managers of prostitution houses, and traffickers themselves—while protecting those who are most vulnerable.

The IMU Alliance lauds the State Legislature's efforts, last session. At the same time, we call upon lawmakers to continue the fight against human trafficking by hearing and advancing bills that increase services afforded to victims, especially children. To that end, the IMU Alliance strongly supports the enactment of "safe harbors" legislation that increases protections and services for underage trafficking survivors, extends the statute of limitations under the prostitution coercion liability act, and grants immunity for underage victims of sex crimes.

That said, we feel that the following amendment would improve the proposed measure. Recognizing that the Department of Human Services is stretched thin financially and state revenues are scarce, we encourage your committee to amend Section 1, § -3(a) to read: "The department, if funds are available, shall develop a victim services program to address the needs

of sexually exploited children and minors at risk of becoming sexually exploited.” Moreover, we are amenable to restricting the immunity provisions in Sections 3, 4, and 5 of this bill to minors who have not yet reached the age of consent, i.e. children under the age of 18.

Again, the IMUAlliance thanks you for your hard work to stem human trafficking on our shores. Room for improvement remains, however, and we feel that the measure in question, with proposed amendments, will consecrate last year's momentum into a concerted movement. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Sincerely,
Kris Coffield
Legislative Director
IMUAlliance



POLARIS PROJECT
FOR A WORLD WITHOUT SLAVERY

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2579
PRESENTED TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE
MARCH 29, 2012**

Mr. Chairman and members of the Finance Committee:

On behalf of the more than 40,000 supporters of Polaris Project, thank you for providing us with an opportunity to speak about the crime of human trafficking. My name is James Dold and I am Policy Counsel for the Polaris Project.

Polaris Project is a leading national organization dedicated to combating human trafficking within the United States by serving victims, raising public awareness, and engaging in policy advocacy at both the State and Federal level. We have been selected by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to be its training and technical assistance provider and have operated the National Human Trafficking Resource Center and Hotline since December 2007. During this time our human trafficking call specialists have fielded over 48,000 calls from across the nation. We have also provided victim services to more than 500 survivors of human trafficking since 2004 in our D.C. and New Jersey client service offices.

I would like to take a moment to specifically thank Senator Chun Oakland for introducing SB 2579. We greatly appreciate the Hawaii Legislature's concern for and willingness to address the crime of human trafficking, a grave violation of human rights.

SB 2579

SB 2579 is a critical component of Hawaii enacting a comprehensive legal framework to combat human trafficking, and more specifically child sex trafficking. There is a shifting legal dynamic afoot across the nation in which we handle and respond to children who have been exploited through prostitution. In many states, children can still be prosecuted for being exploited through prostitution. There can be no graver human rights violation of children than to punish them for having been a victim of a crime. Under the Federal Trafficking Victims Protection Act, all children exploited through prostitution are seen as victims of a crime, not criminals themselves. There is a growing contingency of states across the country that have begun recognizing this

shifting paradigm, including Washington, Connecticut, New York, Tennessee, Illinois, Minnesota, Vermont, and Massachusetts.

The need for this legislation cannot be over stated as we seek to create a comprehensive, victim-centered, legal framework to combat human trafficking in the great state of Hawaii. The 2007 Trafficking In Persons Report put out by the U.S. State Department endorsed this victim-centered approach that is captured by SB 2579:

“Confirmed trafficking victims should not be punished for crimes that are a direct result of being trafficked—such as not holding proper immigration documents or violation of prostitution, labor, or begging statutes. Trafficking victims should not be detained in criminal detention facilities, except in extreme circumstances. They should be treated as victims.”

Hawaii has the opportunity to not only join this growing list of states in treating children as victims, not criminals, but it also can set a new standard in the way in which these children are handled. The Safe Harbor bill pending before your committee would exempt children from prosecution for prostitution, as is done in Vermont, Tennessee, and Illinois, as well as provide needed services to these victims. The bill you have before you is one of the strongest, if not THE strongest safe harbor bills in the nation.

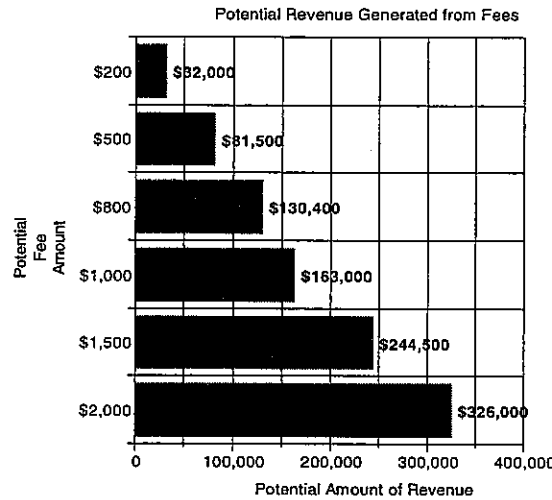
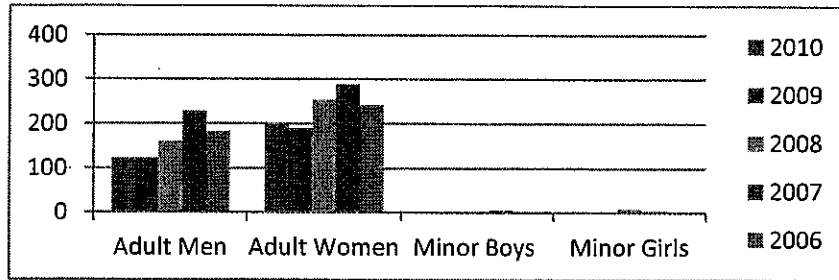
Potential Amendments

If members have any concerns about potential costs, Polaris Project would urge members of the committee to consider adding an amendment that would create a mandatory \$2,000 fine for those offering a fee to engage in prostitution. We believe the revenue generated by such a fine would help off-set any costs associated with creating a new program within DHR.

Indeed, the state of Washington recently passed a similar bill this year to help generate revenue for victim services for human trafficking survivors. In that bill, in addition to a mandatory fine for prostitution offenses, the Washington legislature also imposed a mandatory fine on human traffickers.

Based on data gathered from the Uniform Hawaii Crime Reports, the average number of johns (those buying commercial sex) who were arrested over the preceding five year period was 163. The potential revenue generation from fining johns \$2,000 would be \$326,000 over a one year period or \$652,000 over the two period that has been built in before the law would take effect (see chart below). Thus, DHR could have more than half of a million dollars to begin developing a program to specifically address the needs of sexually exploited youth as is required by the legislation.

Arrests for Prostitution between 2006 and 2010 for Men, Women, and Children



It is our belief that with the two-year window and the potential revenue generation, Hawaii could become a model for other states on the mainland to follow.

Additionally, I would submit that fines of this sort are not new in states across the country. In the Illinois Safe Harbor bill, for instance, one of the ways they decided to pay for services for children who were exploited was to authorize the impoundment of a john's vehicle, whereby he could only get it back upon payment of \$1,500 fine.

This amendment could greatly enhance the states' ability to generate income to pay for services for children and send a strong message that Hawaii is a place where children and women are not for sale.

Support SB 2579

Therefore, we strongly ask you and other members of the Finance Committee to vote favorably upon SB 2579 and if necessary, consider our proposal to generate additional revenue and bring justice to the children of Hawaii who have been exploited through prostitution. If you should have any questions, please feel free to call me at (202) 745-1001, ext. 132. Mahalo.

-James L. Dold, J.D.



THE PACIFIC ALLIANCE
TO STOP SLAVERY

DATE: March 28, 2012

ATTN: COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Rep. Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
Rep. Isaac W. Choy
Rep. Chris Lee
Rep. Ty Cullen
Rep. Dee Morikawa
Rep. Heather Giugni
Rep. James Kunane Tokioka
Rep. Sharon E. Har
Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita
Rep. Mark J. Hashem
Rep. Barbara C. Marumoto
Rep. Linda Ichiyama
Rep. Gil Riviere
Rep. Jo Jordan
Rep. Gene Ward
Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami

DATE: Thursday, March 29, 2012

TIME: 4:30p.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 308, State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2579 SD2 HD2 WITH AMENDMENTS -
RELATING TO MINORS

Dear Committee on Judiciary:

The Pacific Alliance to Stop Slavery (PASS) is in strong support of this bill. PASS serves victims of Human Trafficking for sex or labor in the state of Hawaii and has a support base of over 7000 persons.

PASS respectfully requests the following amendment to be made:

Understanding that the Department of Human Services is stretched thin financially, we encourage your committee to amend Section 1, § -3(a) to read: "The department, **if funds are available**, shall develop a victim services program to address the needs of sexually exploited children and minors at risk of becoming sexually exploited."

March 28, 2012

EQUALITY NOW

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF S.B. 2579

Committee: House Committee on Finance

Hearing Date: March 29, 2012 (4:30 p.m.), Conference Room 308

Honorable Chair Oshiro and Committee Members:

Equality Now is an international human rights organization that works to protect and promote the rights of women and girls throughout the world. Among issues of concern to Equality Now are human trafficking, which disproportionately effects women and girls, sex tourism and other practices that promote the commercial sexual exploitation of women and girls. In the past we have worked with our partners at the Pacific Alliance to Stop Slavery on Hawaii's sex tourism law and last year's bills, H.B. 141 and H.B. 240, which outlawed labor trafficking and strengthened existing anti-prostitution laws respectively.

Equality Now endorses the 4 P's approach to combat human trafficking; prevention, protection, prosecution and promoting partnerships. The passage of H.B. 240 represented a significant step toward easing the prosecution of the johns that create the demand for sex trafficking and the pimps that traffic women and girls to satisfy that demand. The package of bills submitted this year including H.B. 2234, H.B. 2235, H.B. 1994, H.B. 1995, H.B. 2233, S.B. 2579 and S.B. 2122 if passed will provide the prevention, protection and partnership

assistance to effectively combat sex trafficking and will make Hawaii a national model in this regard.

Equality Now strongly supports S.B. 2579. This "Safe Harbor" bill will increase protection to minor victims of sex trafficking by creating a minor victims of prostitution fund which will require \$5,000 monetary assessments against those convicted of prostituting individuals less than 18 years of age and of those who patronize them. This assessment will also be required of any individual accused of pimping or patronizing a minor even when the pimp or patron has been granted a deferred acceptance of guilty or no contest plea. These assessments will be used to provide treatment and services to minor victims of prostitution. Thus, the cost of such services will justly fall on the pimps and Johns responsible for the damages suffered by their victims.

Of critical importance to the protection of minor victims of sex trafficking are the provisions of S.B. 2579 that amend Hawaii Revised Statutes §712-1200, §712-1206, §712-1207 and §712-1209. These amendments provide that an individual less than 18 years of age charged with a prostitution offense shall be immune from prosecution and shall be subject to the child protective provisions of this bill. These amendments recognize that minor victims of sex trafficking cannot form the necessary intent to commit the crime of prostitution. It also recognizes that even when trafficking is not present minors in prostitution are almost invariably victims of other abuses or situations that prevent them from making an informed choice about the dangerous activity of prostitution. These

include sexual and physical abuse, homelessness, substance abuse and lack of education or job skills.

The amendments to HRS §712-1200, §712-1206, §712-1207 and §712-1209 will prevent children from being saddled with a criminal conviction which currently serves to further reduce their options for legitimate employment, social service programs and resuming their education. These three amendments recognize minors in prostitution as the victims that they are and place them on a road to recovery as opposed to a return to further abuse. These three amendments represent sound legal and moral judgments about children in prostitution and Equality Now enthusiastically urges their passage. Also, protected victims of trafficking, especially minors, are better prepared to assist in the prosecution of their traffickers than those without protections like those contained in S.B. 2579

Finally, in regard to S.B. 2579, Equality Now strongly supports extending the statute of limitations for actions pursuant to HRS §663J-7 from two years to six years. This will bring the statute of limitations under the Prostitution Coercion Liability Act into consonance with the statute of limitations contained in HRS §701-108(2)(b). The extension of this statute of limitation recognizes that the recovery period for sex trafficking victims often exceed two years and that minor victims of sex trafficking especially are unlikely to be aware of their legal rights against their traffickers.

S.B. 2579 provides necessary protections for sex trafficking victims and is necessary for a holistic and effective response to sex trafficking. Equality Now strongly urges that you pass this bill.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kenneth J. Franzblau
Equality Now
Director of Anti-Trafficking Initiatives
250 West 57th Street
New York, New York 10019
212-586-0906
Kenjf57@yahoo.com

SB2579 SD2 HD2

Testifier's name: Raquel Y. de Oliveira, Masters of Social Work Student, Hawai'i Pacific University

This testimony is respectfully submitted for consideration in the passing of Bill SB2579 SD2 HD2 now being considered by the Finance Committee on Thursday, 03-29-12 4:30PM in House conference room 308.

I support this bill in its current form and suggest the finance committee consider funding programs such as those mentioned under line 18 of the bill that states in pertinent part, "sexually exploited children deserve the protection of child welfare services, including diversion, crisis intervention, counseling, and emergency housing services."

This bill should consider specific funding for those programs to assist children caught up in human trafficking. Emergency housing services in particular are essential as the first step to keep youth out of the streets. Housing will alleviate homelessness and the dependency these children have on traffickers. Without a specific funding source, however, these measures and the entire premise of the bill will not be realized.

TESTIMONY

Harm Reduction Hawaii
c/o 1658 Liholiho St #205
Honolulu, HI 96822

To the House Committee on Finance
Regarding SB2579, SD2, HD 2 relating to minors
To be heard Thursday March 29 at 4:30 PM in conference room 308.

Dear Senators:

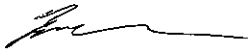
Harm Reduction Hawaii must oppose this bill. We have attempted in earlier testimony to call the legislature's attention to the confused nature of SB2579 and the clear need for participation from professionals in the health and outreach community in redrafting it. These intelligent suggestions do not seem to have made an impression.

This latest draft is counterproductive and wrong-headed. On the one hand it seeks to empower anti-trafficking agencies who I consider to have little actual knowledge or background in the topics they claim to be experts in. It seeks to develop programs that suit their agenda which is primarily a moral crusade to abolish prostitution. In so doing it disenfranchises a long list of professionals and local academics that have good ideas for programs that might actually work.

The second element of the bill, that waives prosecution for underage persons charged with selling sex, might be a good thing in isolation. Unfortunately it ignores the real world and how such a bill would affect real world situations. It unabashedly puts underage sex workers at a competitive advantage in the marketplace versus adults in the same industry. This is the exact opposite of the result desired by proponents of the bill. The only effective way to address this problem is to decriminalize and control it through zoning all sex work. This would make delivery of social services easier to those in need and alleviate complaints heard so often from neighborhoods such as Chinatown.

Who on this committee wants to go to the Downtown Neighborhood board and explain why they have made it de facto legal for underage people to sell sex on their streets?

Sincerely:



Tracy Ryan
Executive Director, Harm Reduction Hawaii

(808) 534-1846

tracyar@hawaiiantel.net

Christopher D. Yanuaria
1800 East-West Road
Honolulu, HI 96822

Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Rep. Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Thursday, March 29, 2012 4:30 A.M.

State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street, Conference Room 308

RE: SB2579, SD2, HD2 RELATING TO MINORS

Establishes a new chapter for the safe harbor of sexually exploited children.
Expands the scope of the domestic violence and sexual assault special fund annual report to the legislature. Establishes that persons who are under eighteen and suspected of or charged with certain offenses of prostitution shall not be prosecuted. Effective January 7, 2019.

Aloha Chair Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro and Vice Chair Rep. Marilyn B. Lee:

My name is Christopher Yanuaria, a graduate student at Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work and a Hawaii resident. I am testifying in **STRONG SUPPORT OF SB2579, SD2, HD2.**

System-wide misidentification of children as status offenders or juvenile delinquents runs rampant in Hawaii, which results in the further victimization of child victims of sex trafficking by those who should be tasked to help them. Hawaii must enact laws that automatically protect child victims of sex-trafficking such as SB2579 proposes.

I first become aware of international human trafficking when talking about it with a close friend in Hawaii, which led me to advocate against this horrible crime during my undergraduate studies in California. In further exploration of the issue, I have learned that human trafficking was occurring within the U.S., which then led me to move to Washington, D.C. to work directly with survivors of human trafficking as a fellow with the Polaris Project in 2010. I would have never guessed that this issue would bring me back home to Hawaii.

Human trafficking is modern day slavery that is widespread domestically and abroad, including here in Hawaii. Human trafficking is the most appalling violation of human rights I can think of and it is an insult to the personal dignity of the victim. Having the opportunity to work with survivors of trafficking with the Polaris Project helped me to understand the array of needed services including health, legal, and social support in order to assist them in the recovery and reintegration into back into society process. A failure to provide these services increases the possibility of being re-trafficked, physical and psychological consequences, isolation, substance abuse, and suicide.

As an aspiring local social worker my desire is to help end human trafficking here in Hawaii. I have realized that Hawaii does not have service protocol for child victims of sex trafficking, which will further protect children who have been exploited. With the amount that this crime occurs in Hawaii, as specified by agencies working with survivors here, we need sufficient laws in place to ensure we are correctly identifying child trafficked survivors and providing them with proper services.

Mahalo,

Christopher Yanuaria

FINTestimony

m: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 11:17 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: tanalee08@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2579 on 3/29/2012 4:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 4:30:00 PM SB2579

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Tana-Lee Rebhan-Kang
Organization: Individual
E-mail: tanalee08@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments:

Thank you for holding this hearing.

If no other trafficking bill were to pass this session, services for sexually exploited children is imperative and must pass.

My dad molested me ONCE (and tried a second time a year later) when I was 13 and 14>; He apologized and said it would never happen again. I never trusted that it wouldn't. Our mother-daughter relationship was destroyed forever.

I'm 62 now, and am still traumatized by what happened.

I wish I had had the support services that you have the ability to begin creating today.

I support the intent of this bill and agree with the testimonies from Kathryn Xian (PASS) and Kris Coffield (Imua Alliance).

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
ent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 10:42 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: eskaiuanuhea@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2579 on 3/29/2012 4:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 4:30:00 PM SB2579

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: elsa souza
Organization: Individual
E-mail: eskaiuanuhea@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments:

I am in support of SB 2579 Safe harbor for child victims. We need to give these children every advantage for protection and helping them permanently escape this life style.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 8:49 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: ginaspace@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2579 on 3/29/2012 4:30:00 PM
Attachments: SB2579_SD2_.pdf

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 4:30:00 PM SB2579

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Gina Snowden
Organization: PASS
E-mail: ginaspace@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments:

FINTestimony

m: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 4:06 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jdold@polarisproject.org
Subject: Testimony for SB2579 on 3/29/2012 4:30:00 PM
Attachments: Hawaii Testimony in Support of SB 2579 - Finance.docx

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 4:30:00 PM SB2579

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: James Lee Dold, J.D.
Organization: Polaris Project
E-mail: jdold@polarisproject.org
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments:

FINTestimony

m: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2012 6:53 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: launahale@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2579 on 3/29/2012 4:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 4:30:00 PM SB2579

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Benton Pang
Organization: Individual
E-mail: launahale@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2012

Comments:

FINTestimony

m: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2012 2:17 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: tadiarice@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2579 on 3/29/2012 4:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 4:30:00 PM SB2579

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: tadia rice
Organization: Individual
E-mail: tadiarice@gmail.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2012

Comments: