



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
P. O. Box 339  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

February 5, 2013

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: The Honorable Mele Carroll, Chair  
House Committee on Human Services

FROM: Patricia McManaman, Director

SUBJECT: **H.B. 401 - RELATING TO SOCIAL SERVICES**

Hearing: Tuesday, February 5, 2013; 9:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 329, State Capitol

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of H.B. 401 is to appropriate general funds for the social services programs formerly funded under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program.

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) appreciates the intent of this bill, but we are concerned about the cost implications and the adverse impacts on the priorities in the Executive Biennium Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this bill.

# HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

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Daryl Selman, President  
Judith F. Clark, Executive Director  
Aloha House  
American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii  
Bay Clinic, Inc.  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Honolulu  
Big Island Substance Abuse Council  
Blueprint for Change  
Bobby Benson Center  
Catholic Charities Hawaii  
Child and Family Service  
Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii  
Domestic Violence Action Center  
EPIC, Inc.  
Family Support Hawaii  
Hale Kipa, Inc.  
Hale 'Opio Kauai, Inc.  
Hawaii Behavioral Health  
Hawaii Student Television  
Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition  
Hina Mauka Teen Care  
Hui Malama Learning Center  
Kahi Mohala Behavioral Health  
KEY (Kualoa-Heeia Ecumenical Youth)  
Project  
Kids Hurt Too  
Kokua Kalihi Valley  
Life Foundation  
Marimed Foundation  
Maui Youth and Family Services  
Palama Settlement  
P.A.R.E.N.T.S., Inc.  
Parents and Children Together (PACT)  
Planned Parenthood of Hawaii  
REAL  
Salvation Army Family Intervention Svcs.  
Salvation Army Family Treatment Svcs.  
Sex Abuse Treatment Center  
Susannah Wesley Community Center  
The Catalyst Group  
The Children's Alliance of Hawaii  
Waikiki Health Center  
Women Helping Women  
YWCA of Kauai

February 3 2013

To: Representative Mele Carroll, Chair,  
And members of the Committee on Human Services

## Testimony in Support of HB 401 Relating to Social Services

Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports HB 401 Relating to Social Services.

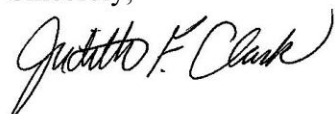
Communities benefit when young people and their families have the resources needed to be safe, healthy, and ready to succeed. The youth development, teen pregnancy prevention, and family strengthening programs that were formerly funded with Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) monies provided positive resources and opportunities that prevent problems such as substance abuse, child abuse and neglect, unplanned pregnancy, and juvenile crime.

These programs were meeting their goals and demonstrating positive outcomes for the participating children, adolescents, and families. Funding was lost solely due to the serious economic challenges faced by the State of Hawaii in 2009.

This is the time to restore effective prevention and early intervention services and enable Hawaii's families to grow and thrive together.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark, MPH  
Executive Director



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February 4, 2013

**To:** Chair Mele Carroll, Vice Chair Bertrand Kobayashi and Members of the House Committee on Human Services

**From:** Katie Reardon Polidoro, Director of Public Affairs & Government Relations, Planned Parenthood of Hawaii

**Re: Testimony in Support of HB 401**

Planned Parenthood of Hawaii (PPHI) supports HB 401, which appropriates monies from the general funds to community organizations providing teen pregnancy prevention services. At PPHI we work on a daily basis to help teens prevent unintended pregnancy and make healthy decisions about their reproductive and sexual lives. PPHI serves the sexual and reproductive health needs of the people of Hawaii through our clinical services, education programs, and by advocating for reproductive justice. We educate youth on how to make responsible choices about sex, we assist parents to talk more openly and effectively with their children about their sexual and reproductive health decisions, and we provide teens with access to health care and contraception.

Like many local organizations, over the past years, we experienced funding cuts to our education program when contracts with the Department of Human Services to do teen pregnancy prevention work were reduced and eventually terminated. In 2010, PPHI entered into a contract with DHS to provide statewide sexual health education for \$75,000. Shortly into that contract, due to lack of state funds, our contract was reduced by 50% to just over \$35,000, and ultimately terminated. PPHI provided evidenced based, comprehensive and medically accurate sexual health education to adolescents throughout Hawaii. We use an evidenced based curriculum, Making Proud Choices (MPC). Based on national studies, MPC has been successful in changing young people's behavior- more students who receive MPC chose to delay first sexual intercourse, more students who have had sex chose to become abstinent, and those who chose to be sexually active were more likely to practice safer sex, using condoms and other forms of contraception.

Hawaii's young people desperately need effective sexual health programs. The most recent Guttmacher Institute report on teen pregnancy was released in January 2010. Our teen pregnancy rate was 71 per 1000 teens ages 15-19 – giving Hawaii the 17<sup>th</sup> highest teen pregnancy rate in the country.<sup>1</sup> The most recent Hawaii Youth Risk Behavior data, released in 2012, offered similarly worrisome details. Like in past years, it found that less than half, only 44% of all sexually active teens in Hawaii are using condoms.<sup>2</sup> In addition, the data shows that the number of teens failing to use a condom during sex is steadily increasing, from 46% in 2007, to 52% in 2009, to 56% in 2011.<sup>3</sup> Nationally, 40% of teens fail to use a condom during sexual intercourse.<sup>4</sup> Hawaii has the lowest rate of condom use among teens in the nation. At Planned Parenthood,

<sup>1</sup> US Teenage Pregnancies, Births and Abortions: National and State Trends and Trends by Race and Ethnicity, January 2010, <http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/USTPTrends.pdf>.

<sup>2</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "Youth Online: High School YRBS." Accessed from <http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/App/Results.aspx?LID=HI> on December 10, 2012.

<sup>3</sup> Id.

<sup>4</sup> Id.

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(A Maui United Way Agency)

we see this data as alarming indicators that our youth need help when it comes to protecting their sexual and reproductive health.

The social and economic costs of teen pregnancy are immense. Teens who become pregnant are significantly less likely to graduate from high school, with only 32% of teen mothers obtaining a diploma by the age of 30.<sup>5</sup> They are more likely to need welfare assistance, more likely to be single parents, and often have more children earlier than their peers. Their children also face obstacles as they are more likely to have physical and mental health problems, such as low birth weight and mental disabilities, are more likely to be abused or neglected, and are more likely to be placed into foster care.<sup>6</sup> As a consequence, the United States spends over \$6.9 a year providing services and care related to teen child birth.<sup>7</sup> Hawaii spends as much as \$22 million each year.<sup>8</sup> With the loss of prevention services that cost will undoubtedly increase in future years.

Like many organizations we are doing more with less, but our commitment to the health and wellbeing of Hawaii's keiki will continue. We ask the Committee to consider the wellbeing of our young people and the certain costs our state will face without crucial teen pregnancy prevention services. Please pass HB 401 so that community organizations can continue their important work. Thank you.

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<sup>5</sup> National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. (1997). *Whatever Happened to Childhood? The Problem of Teen Pregnancy in the United States*. Washington, DC: Author.

<sup>6</sup> Id.

<sup>7</sup> Id.

<sup>8</sup> See *By the Numbers: The Public Costs of Teen Childbearing in Hawaii*, November 2006, accessed from <http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/costs/pdt/statesihawaii/onepager.pdf>