

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL (SB) 2308, SENATE DRAFT (SD) 1
RELATING TO CHILDREN

by
Ted Sakai, Director
Department of Public Safety

House Committee on Public Safety
Representative Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
Representative Kaniela Ing, Vice Chair

Thursday, March 13, 2014; 10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Ing, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) is in **support** of SB 2308, SD 1 Relating to Children. The Department supports providing social services and programs for the children who have a parent(s) in the prison system.

It is well established that children of incarcerated parents are far more likely than other children to eventually become enmeshed in the criminal justice system. National research shows that they are seven times more likely to become incarcerated as adults. If for that alone, we need to do much more for these children. In addition, however, programs which promote family reunification improve the offender's chances for a successful parole, and improve behavior while in prison. We know that such programs are viable, and we do have some strong local models, such as Supporting Keiki of Incarcerated Parents (SKIP) and the Fathers Bridging the Miles programs.

We recognize that we need to expand on our limited program offerings for inmates with children. Currently, our programs are limited to contracts with qualified private vendors to provide individual and family therapy sessions to male and female inmates with substance abuse issues, who are preparing to transition to the community after a lengthy period of incarceration. The program attempts to address family core issues, prior to the inmate's placement on furlough, and build a support system to benefit both inmate and child(ren).

SB 2308, SD1 will provide PSD the opportunity to expand these types of programs to all willing inmates with children. We support this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

MITCHELL D. ROTH
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

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PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



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OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 2308 SD1

A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CHILDREN

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

Rep. Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair

Rep. Kaniela Ing, Vice Chair

Thursday, March 13, 2014, 10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

Honorable Chair Aquino, Vice-Chair Ing, and Members of the Committee on Public Safety, the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawai'i submits the following testimony in support of Senate Bill No. 2308 SD1.

This measure makes an appropriation to the Department of Public Safety for programs and services for children of incarcerated parents and to assist with family reunification.

Studies have shown that children of incarcerated parents are at an increased risk of abuse or neglect, and are more likely to have mental problems and difficulties in school. It is also well established that children of incarcerated parents are far more likely than other children to eventually become a product of the criminal justice system and national research shows that these children are seven times more likely to become incarcerated as adults. There is a need to expand on our limited programs offerings for willing inmates with children.

The Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawai'i supports the passage of Senate Bill No. 2308 SD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Respectfully,

Mitchell D. Roth
Prosecuting Attorney
County of Hawai'i

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

P.O. Box 37158, Honolulu, HI 96837-0158

Phone/email: (808) 927-1214 / kat.caphi@gmail.com



COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

Rep. Henry Aquino, Chair

Rep. Kaniela Ing, Vice Chair

Thursday, March 13, 2014

10:00 a.m.

Room 309

SUPPORT SB 2308 SD1- FUNDING for CHILDREN OF INCARCERATED PARENTS

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Ing, and Members of the Committee!

My name is Kat Brady and I am the Coordinator of Community Alliance on Prisons, community initiative promoting smart justice policies for more than a decade. This testimony is respectfully offered on behalf of the 5,800 Hawai'i individuals living behind bars, always mindful that approximately 1,500 Hawai'i individuals are serving their sentences abroad, thousands of miles away from their loved ones, their homes and, for the disproportionate number of incarcerated Native Hawaiians, far from their ancestral lands.

SB 2308 SD1 makes an appropriation to the department of public safety for programs and services for children of incarcerated parents and to assist with family reunification.

Community Alliance on Prisons supports this measure. Research shows that children with incarcerated parents are seven times more likely than other children to end up incarcerated themselves.

By investing in these children now, we can break the cycle of intergenerational incarceration and help each of our keiki reach their fullest potential and social goals.

Please support this measure. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

677 Ala Moana Boulevard, Suite 702 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: (808) 531-2198 Fax: (808) 534-1199

Web site: <http://www.hysn.org> E-mail: info@hysn.org

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
Courage House Hawaii
Domestic Violence Action Center
EPIC, Inc.
Family Programs Hawaii
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
Kaanalike
Kahi Mo'hala Behavioral Health
KEY (Kualoa-Hee'ia Ecumenical Youth)
Project
Kids Hurt Too
Kokua Kaili 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

March 11, 2014

To: Representative Henry Aquino Chair
And members of the Committee on Public Safety

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2308 SD 1 RELATING TO CHILDREN

Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports SB 2308 Relating to Children.

Children of incarcerated parents experience grief and loss, similar to the experience of divorce or the death of a parent. Studies show that children of incarcerated parents are at increased risk of abuse or neglect, and more likely to have mental problems, and difficulty in school. Children of incarcerated parents are seven times more likely to enter the juvenile or adult correctional systems themselves. Providing opportunities to sustain the parent-child bond can alleviate many of these problems.

Prisoners who have regular contact with their children benefit as well. They are less likely to violate prison rules and create trouble for prison authorities. They are more likely to take advantage of rehabilitation and educational opportunities while in prison. Regular contact with children increases the chances of successful reintegration into the community when a parent is released from prison.

Hawaii Youth Services Network believes that children and their incarcerated parents will benefit from parent/child support programs in Hawaii's prisons.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark MPH

ing2-Travis

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 9:05 PM
To: pbstestimony
Cc: sherrianwitt@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2308 on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM*

SB2308

Submitted on: 3/10/2014

Testimony for PBS on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 309

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| sherrian witt | Witt Counseling Service | Support | No |

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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ing2-Travis

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2014 9:15 AM
To: pbstestimony
Cc: slwsurfing@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2308 on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM*

SB2308

Submitted on: 3/11/2014

Testimony for PBS on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 309

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| sharon | Individual | Support | No |

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ing2-Travis

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2014 8:08 AM
To: pbstestimony
Cc: juggler@aloha.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2308 on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM*

SB2308

Submitted on: 3/11/2014

Testimony for PBS on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 309

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Graham Ellis | Individual | Support | No |

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ing2-Travis

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2014 7:54 AM
To: pbstestimony
Cc: rbkarasuda@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2308 on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM*

SB2308

Submitted on: 3/11/2014

Testimony for PBS on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 309

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| RaeDeen Karasuda | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2014 7:50 AM
To: pbstestimony
Cc: paulakomarajr@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2308 on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM

SB2308

Submitted on: 3/11/2014

Testimony for PBS on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 309

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Paul A. komara, Jr. | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: I support SB 2308 to provide support for children of incarcerated parents.

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ing2-Travis

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2014 12:45 AM
To: pbstestimony
Cc: hilobliss@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2308 on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM

SB2308

Submitted on: 3/11/2014

Testimony for PBS on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 309

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| joy cash | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: Time to do the right thing in passing this bill.

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ing2-Travis

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 10:11 PM
To: pbstestimony
Cc: aprilhawaii@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2308 on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM

SB2308

Submitted on: 3/10/2014

Testimony for PBS on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 309

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| A Kathleen Lee | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: Aloha, Many states have already enacted care and concern for our keiki in laws that are so worthwhile like this one. Lets join the movement to bring a 'kindlier and gentler light' to these children. Mahalo, A Kathleen Lee

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ing2-Travis

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 10:08 PM
To: pbstestimony
Cc: koohanpaik@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2308 on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM*

SB2308

Submitted on: 3/10/2014

Testimony for PBS on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 309

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Koohan Paik | Individual | Support | No |

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ing2-Travis

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 8:50 PM
To: pbstestimony
Cc: shannonkona@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2308 on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM

SB2308

Submitted on: 3/10/2014

Testimony for PBS on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 309

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Shannon Rudolph | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: Support

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 8:42 PM
To: pbstestimony
Cc: claudiarice25@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2308 on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM*

SB2308

Submitted on: 3/10/2014

Testimony for PBS on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 309

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| claudia rice | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2014 3:54 PM
To: pbstestimony
Cc: hlusk@chowproject.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2308 on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM

SB2308

Submitted on: 3/11/2014

Testimony for PBS on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 309

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Heather Lusk | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: Please support this important bill which will support our keiki! Research shows that children who have at least one parent in prison are 7 times more likely to end up incarcerated themselves • These children suffer from grief, many have mental health issues , and many other issues that affect their schooling and socialization • Working with children and their incarcerated parent helps to strengthen the family & provide hope to the incarcerated parent • Incarcerated parents who are involved with their children's development have few write-ups & focus on their rehabilitation Thank you.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
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To: pbstestimony
Cc: palmtree7@earthlink.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2308 on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM*

SB2308

Submitted on: 3/11/2014

Testimony for PBS on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 309

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| janice palma-glenie | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2014 6:35 PM
To: pbstestimony
Cc: ltanoai@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2308 on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM*

SB2308

Submitted on: 3/11/2014

Testimony for PBS on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 309

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Lanilynn Tanoai | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

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ing2-Travis

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To: pbstestimony
Cc: wakinek1@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2308 on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM

SB2308

Submitted on: 3/12/2014

Testimony for PBS on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 309

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| K. Wakinekona | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: Providing programs for the children and family of incarcerated individuals is so important! Incarceration affects everyone-the individual, their 'ohana, & the community. Monies made available to develop this type of programming to maintain and strengthen familial bonds is vital during ones incarceration to support all involved-especially an inmates children and family. It is necessary to not only reduce recidivism & prevent inter-generational involvement in the justice/corrections system, but also fosters the familial ties necessary for successful reentry. I strongly support this bill and the implementation of such programs. MAHALO!

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LATE

ing2-Travis

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2014 7:56 AM
To: pbstestimony
Cc: anohano@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2308 on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM

SB2308

Submitted on: 3/13/2014

Testimony for PBS on Mar 13, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 309

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Anolani Hanohano | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: Aloha, I greatly support this bill. I support and encourage the family bond to help the incarcerated individuals. I beleive that this type of support helps with the rehabilitation process.

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