



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 04/04/2013

Committee: House Finance

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 0391,SD2,HD1 RELATING TO YOUTH

Purpose of Bill: Requires the office of youth services to coordinate a two-year safe places for youth pilot program to establish a network of safe places where youth can access safety and services. Establishes the position of safe places for youth program coordinator. Makes appropriation. Effective July 1, 2050. (SB391 HD1)

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) is in support of SB 391,SD2,HD1 as it begins the challenging work of creating a safe haven for youth who lack a stable home environment. Such a program will provide youth with an opportunity to thrive as individuals and achieve optimal educational outcomes.

The Department is poised to partner with the Office of Youth Services, other agencies, branches and organizations in this pilot effort.

The Department supports this bill as long as its implementation does not replace or adversely impact the Department's priorities set forth in the Executive Budget for Fiscal Biennium 2013-2015 and aligns with our Strategic Plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of this measure that will provide a safety net for our at-risk youth.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF YOUTH SERVICES
707 Richards Street, Suite 525
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

April 4, 2013

TO: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
House Committee on Finance

FROM: David Hipp, Executive Director

SUBJECT: **SB 391, SD2, HD1, Relating to Youth**

Hearing: Thursday, April 4, 2013; 2:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

PURPOSE: The purpose of Senate Bill 391, SD2, HD1 is to require the Office of Youth Services (OYS) to coordinate a two-year safe places for youth pilot program, including a network of safe places where youth can access safety and obtain advice, guidance, programs, and services. The bill also establishes and funds a position for a youth program coordinator.

OFFICE'S POSITION: OYS supports the intent of SB 391, SD2, HD1 Relating to Youth, but requests that any appropriation not affect the priorities in the Executive Biennium Budget.

OYS currently procures programs and services across the state to assist at-risk youth and their families in navigating through the juvenile justice system in order to engage in needed services through outreach and advocacy. In addition, the OYS funds 24-hour short term residential emergency shelters for youth in crisis with walk-ins accepted and no prior approval required. SB 391, SD2, HD1 would expand our current efforts in reaching troubled and/or at-risk youth.

OYS would further add that Hawaii Revised Statute §346 –17.6 includes a listing of services related to no cost emergency shelters to which a minor may consent given several contingencies, and if the services to be provided are deemed appropriate by the provider. We

recommend similar language be included in this bill to both clarify and ensure that a minor can consent to the services that would be provided under this bill.

Additionally, we would recommend that services be restricted to minors as defined in HRS §346 – 17.6 and HRS §571 – 2 which defines terms for the Family Courts. This recommendation addresses our concerns with the comingling of adults in need of services with minors in need of services.

We further seek clarification regarding whether the safe places will be considered child caring institutions and, therefore, subject to the HRS §346-17 which sets standards for child caring and child placing institutions. Ensuring that these pilot programs will operate under applicable and appropriate laws and rules will facilitate implementation.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.



To: Chair Luke
Vice Chair Nishimoto
Vice Chair JOhanson
Members of the Committee on Finance

Fr: Nanci Kreidman, M.A.

RE: SB391, SD2, HD1

Good afternoon. Thank you for the opportunity to lend our thoughts to the important issues pertaining to our youth and their needs for safety.

As our community moves forward to consider viable and comprehensive ways to help our youth achieve adulthood with the skills, safety and resources they need we are advocating that the discussion be broadened to include issues pertaining to dating violence and healthy relationships. Dating abuse results in unwanted pregnancy, hi risk for substance abuse, depression, academic failure and long-lasting emotional wounds.

The incidence of dating violence is alarming. Hawaii's investment in outreach, prevention (and services) has been disappointing. As new programs are shaped and decisions about allocation of resources are debated, we implore you to lift up the importance of support to youth to better understand healthy relationships, warning signs for abuse and services to those already suffering the effects of dating abuse.

The Domestic Violence Action Center is home to one of the few programs dedicated to working with teens and providing statewide outreach, prevention and services. Teen Alert is in great demand and can bring a great deal of expertise to the discussion related to planning, or increased support at Safe Places.

Mahalo for your willingness to consider an expanded approach to Safe Places.

Thank you..

HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

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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

April 2, 2013

To: Representative Sylvia Luke Chair,
And members of the Committee on Finance

Testimony in Support of SB 391 SD2 HD1 Relating to Youth

Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports SB 391 SD2 HD1 Relating to Youth.

The proposed network of safe places for youth was conceived by the young people who attended the 2012 Children and Youth Summit at the Capitol in October.

The Safe Place Network will link together many existing resources for youth and families, such as Boys and Girls Clubs, YMCA/YWCAs, Family Centers and Neighborhood places. It will provide safe environments where adolescents can safely address such issues as peer pressure, unplanned pregnancy, child abuse and neglect, substance abuse. It will provide young people with ways to deal with problems before they get into trouble and avoid unnecessary arrests for status offenses.

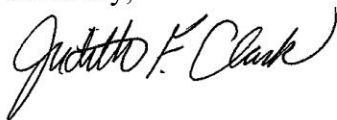
While much of the network is already in place, funding is needed to ensure 24-hour crisis response capability, provide training of youth workers, and ensure coordination of services.

The 24-hour crisis response will follow the National Safe Place model, in which community businesses, such as convenience stores and fire stations are recruited as places where young people can go in an emergency. Staff in those companies are trained and provided with a 24-hour number to call. Workers from the 24-hour site assess the situation and can arrange emergency shelter, make reports to Child Protective Service, or make other appropriate responses to the situation.

If this bill passes, Hawaii Youth Services Network will work with the Office of Youth Services and other partnering organizations to establish and maintain the Safe Place Network. We have identified partners in each county statewide that are willing and able to provide 24-hour response to youth needs and to recruit local businesses as Safe Place Sites.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Judith F. Clark". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

Judith F. Clark, MPH
Executive Director

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 03, 2013 1:39 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: gomama808@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB391 on Apr 4, 2013 14:00PM

SB391

Submitted on: 4/3/2013

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carolyn Martinez Golojuch, MSW	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I started to read this bill but was stopped by the unrealistic Effective date: July 1, 2050. How many youth will we lose if we wait until 2050? They need help now. Every night a minimum of 100 youth are sleeping on the streets in Waikiki. How many more do we have on the streets around the state of Hawaii. We have shelters for men, women and families but the youth who are most at risk, have no one. Our youth run away from abuses in the home, fear of abuse and need our help now. Please pass this bill with at least a date of 2013. This bill is long over due.

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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