

SB391

Measure Title: RELATING TO YOUTH.

Report Title: Keiki Caucus; Office of Youth Services; Safe Places for Youth Pilot Program; Safe Places for Youth Program Coordinator; Appropriation (\$)

Description: Requires the office of youth services to coordinate a two-year safe places for youth pilot program, which will coordinate a network of safe places where youth can access safety and obtain advice, guidance, programs, and services. Establishes the position of safe places for youth program coordinator. Appropriates funds for the coordinator position and residential options for the pilot program.

Companion:

Package: Keiki

Current Referral: HMS, WAM

Introducer(s): CHUN OAKLAND, Baker, Galuteria, Ige, L. Thielen

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

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

Date: 01/29/2013

Committee: Senate Human Services

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 0391 RELATING TO YOUTH

Purpose of Bill: Requires the office of youth services to coordinate a two-year safe places for youth pilot program, which will coordinate a network of safe places where youth can access safety and obtain advice, guidance, programs, and services.

Establishes the position of safe places for youth program coordinator.

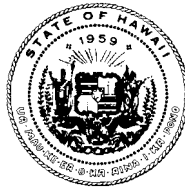
Appropriates funds for the coordinator position and residential options for the pilot program.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) is in support of SB 391 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 Service, other agencies, branches and organizations in this pilot effort.

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

January 29, 2013

TO: The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services

FROM: David Hipp, Executive Director

SUBJECT: S.B. 391 - RELATING TO YOUTH
Hearing: Tuesday, January 29, 2013; 1:30 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 016

PURPOSE: The purpose of Senate Bill 391 is to require the Office of Youth Service (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 position for youth program coordinator.

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

The OYS currently procures programs and services across the state to assist at-risk youth and their families in navigating through the 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. Walk-ins are accepted and no prior approval is required. S.B. 391 would expand our current efforts in reaching at-risk youth.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

hale `opio kaua'i, inc.

Community Programs for Children, Youth and Families

January 27, 2013

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Mark Hubbard
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TO: Committee on Human Services
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Josh Green, MD, Vice Chair

FROM: LaVerne Bishop, Executive Director
Hale `Opio Kaua'i, Inc.

RE: SB391 Relating to Youth Safe Place

HEARING: DATE: January 29, 2013
TIME: 1:30 PM
CONFERENCE ROOM: 016

Hartwell H.K. Blake

Casey Quel Fitchett

Carol Furtado

Phyllis Kunimura

Orianna Skomoroch

Thank you for considering establishing a statewide safe place network, as requested by young people at the Children and Youth Summit in October 2012.

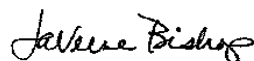
The array of services and various listings available to youth in Hawaii is daunting and rapidly changing. National Safe Places welcome young people in and connect them to knowledgeable staff in a timely fashion. As more and more youth seek information on topics ranging from contraception to bullying to suicide, having identified places in communities around the islands that can direct youth to relevant, reliable and safe resources is highly desirable.

I urge you to support a two-year pilot project that would provide the opportunity to evaluate the impact such a coordinated effort would have on runaway youth, youth in other vulnerable positions, and youth reaching out for information and resources because they had a safe place to do so.

LaVerne Bishop
Executive Director

Lenie Nishihira
Controller

Sincerely,



LaVerne Bishop
Executive Director



Community Alliance for Mental Health

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To: The Hawai'i State Senate Committee on Human Services
Re: SB 391

To: The Honorable Senator Chun-Oakland and the members of the committee.

Aloha,

The Community Alliance for Mental Health along with United Self Help strongly supports SB 391 as vital to our community. What can be of more import than the safety and well-being of our youth?

Our schools are troubled, the youth suicide rate in Hawai'i is intolerable, and no one seems to have an answer. Perhaps our children can find their own answers if they only had a place of safety, with no pressure, that they could go to and search for their own individual answers.

We feel that this program has to potential to be brilliant. We wish it all the best and if there is any way in which either of The Community Alliance for Mental Health or United Self Help can be of service in helping our young people, especially the transition age consumers of Hawai'i we stand ready to be of service.

Mahalo,
Robert Scott Wall
Vice-President

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
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

January 25, 2013

To: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair,
And members of the Committee on Human Services

Testimony in Support of SB 391 Relating to Youth

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

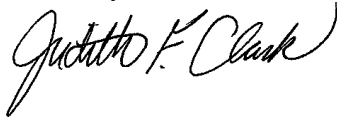
While much of the network is already in place, funding is needed to ensure 24-hour crisis response capability, provide training of youth workers, and ensure coordination of services.

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, appearing to read "Judith F. Clark". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Judith F. Clark, MPH
Executive Director



1350 S. King Street • Suite 309 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96814 • www.pphi.org • Phone: 808-589-1156 • Fax: 808-589-1404

January 28, 2013

To: Chair Suzanne Chun Oakland, Vice Chair Josh Green and Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services

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

Re: Testimony in Support of SB 391

Planned Parenthood of Hawaii (PPHI) supports SB 391, which creates safe, local places where young people can access youth and family serving organizations. It will allow young people the opportunity to more easily deal with issues as peer pressure, unplanned pregnancy, child abuse and neglect, and substance abuse, in an easily accessible, safe, and confidential environment.

The proposed network is based on a National Safe Place model, in which community businesses, such as a nearby store, are recruited as places where young people can go in an emergency. At PPHI, we believe that young people deserve the best information and tools to make healthy and responsible decisions about their life, health, and safety. Therefore, we support SB 391 and ask the Committee to pass it. Mahalo.

Honolulu Health Center

1350 S. King Street, Suite 310
Honolulu, HI 96814
808-589-1149

Kailua Kona Health Center

75-184 Hualalai Road, Suite 205
Kailua Kona, HI 96740
808-329-8211

Kahului (Maui) Health Center

140 Ho'ohana Street, Suite 303
Kahului, HI 96732
808-871-1176
(A Maui United Way Agency)

TESTIMONY ON SB 391 RELATING TO YOUTH
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

January 29, 2013

1:30 pm

Conference Rm. 016

Aloha Chair Chun Oakland, Vice-Chair Green, and members of the Senate Committee on Human Services. My name is Kukunaokalā Yoshimoto, and I am a graduate student at the Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work at the University of Hawaii at Mānoa. I am also the 'Ohana Program Specialist at Hui Mālama O Ke Kai. I am here to testify in **support of SB 391 Relating to Youth**, particularly as it relates to the establishment of a coordinator position as well as the implementation of a pilot program where youth have access to various support services, resources, guidance, and advice where as they otherwise would not have anywhere to go and no one to turn to in times of crisis.

Having had some years of experience as an at-risk youth as well as working with at-risk youth, it is apparent to me how important and needed this type of service is. Thinking back at times in my life where having a Safe House for Youth would have been a crucial resource, I can see how this initiative could have a positive impact on the youth of Hawaii as well as the criminal justice system in Hawaii. By providing an all-encompassing service model while utilizing and building onto already existing programs, agencies, and organizations, the pilot program can start from a solid foundation of community partnerships and will have the ability to grow into a network of collaborative entities that have the best interest of the youth at heart.

Providing these types of intervention services and resources, which had been identified by Hawai'i's youth through the 2012 Youth Summit, could in theory reduce the number of youth that become involved with the justice system. The Youth Safe House working group has had quite a bit of time to consider similar existing models that can be found on the U.S. mainland through which we were able to come up with an appropriate model for our state.

I am again, strongly in support of SB 391 Relating to Youth and hope that you all take this initiative into further consideration at this time. Mahalo for your time and allowing me to testify this afternoon.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Cc: Awai76@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB391 on Jan 29, 2013 13:30PM
Date: Sunday, January 27, 2013 10:53:44 PM

SB391

Submitted on: 1/27/2013

Testimony for HMS on Jan 29, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ellen Awai	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As someone who has worked in the mental health field, a participant in programs for smoking cessation, suicide prevention, hepatitis, and the mother of a young adult, I strongly support SB 391. I have heard from my daughter so many stories of other unfortunate circumstances of her friends. A safe place for youth is important to give guidance to our future leaders. Many parents are too busy, usually creating a life, to help their children understand life and let them turn instead to electronic technology or nothing at all. Boredom can also get our youth involved with crimes. These events cannot replace a thoughtful, responsible, and experienced adult willing to listen to help them navigate obstacles. Please support this 2-year pilot and probably continue it with additional services and staff after evaluations.

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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Cc: ypeia01@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB391 on Jan 29, 2013 13:30PM
Date: Monday, January 28, 2013 12:29:32 PM

SB391

Submitted on: 1/28/2013

Testimony for HMS on Jan 29, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
christine johnson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: It is most important that thorough back ground checks are made on all those involved with vulnerable at risk children and that this safe place and staff and program not be handed over to the catholic church or other places and people who harbor pedophiles and professionals who cover up for them.. please remember that children needing help are most vulnerable to helpers who are stalking children.. thank you christine johnson (former RN and present activist advocate for child sexual abuse victims and for statute of limitations reform for sexual abuse victims)

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