

# **SB400**

Measure Title: RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES.

Report Title: Sudden Infant Death Syndrome; Sudden Unexpected Infant Death;  
Safe Sleep Policy

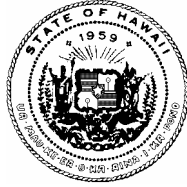
Description: Requires child care facilities, family child care homes, group child care centers, group child care homes, and infant and toddler child care centers that care for children one year of age or younger to develop, maintain, and implement safe sleep policies to prevent sudden unexpected infant deaths and sudden infant death syndrome. Makes certain requirements of operators.

Companion:

Package: Keiki

Current Referral: HMS/HTH, CPN

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



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

January 30, 2013

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
Senate Committee on Human Services  
  
The Honorable Josh Green, M.D., Chair  
Senate Committee on Health

FROM: Patricia McManaman, Director

SUBJECT: **S.B. 400 - RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES**

Hearing: Wednesday, January 30, 2013; 2:05 p.m.  
Conference Room 229, State Capitol

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of S.B. 400 is to require child care facilities, family child care homes, group child care centers, group child care homes, and infant and toddler child care centers that care for children one year of age or younger to develop, maintain, and implement safe sleep policies to prevent sudden unexpected infant deaths and sudden infant death syndrome. Makes certain requirements of operators.

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) acknowledges the efforts of the Legislature to seek measures to prevent the tragic deaths associated with sudden unexpected infant deaths and sudden infant death syndrome. However, we must respectfully oppose S.B. 400 which would legislate specific program requirements for regulated child care providers which can be addressed through administrative rules.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this bill.  
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AGENCY

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AFFILIATIONS

Alliance for Children & Families  
Kauai United Way  
Maui United Way  
Hawaii Island United Way



**From:** Michelle Rho  
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**To:** Senator Chun Oakland, Chair  
Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair  
*Senate Committee on Human Services*  
Senator Josh Green, Chair  
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair  
*Senate Committee on Health*  
January 30, 2013 – 2:00pm  
Conference Room 229

**RE: IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 400; RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES**

Dear Chair Chun Oakland, Chair Green, Vice Chair Baker and members of the committees,

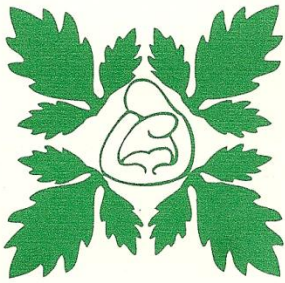
My name is Michelle Rho, a committee member of Safe Sleep Hawaii, and a staff member of Child & Family Service in the Parent Line and HomeReach Program funded by the Department of Health. Parent Line and HomeReach is a statewide program open to all of Hawaii's residents. Thank you for this opportunity to provide my testimony in strong support of SB 400, Relating to Human Services.

Suffocation has been the leading cause of fatal injuries among healthy Hawaii keikis under the age of 1. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends all infants under the age of 1 to sleep on their backs, in a safe sleeping environment. Although sleep related deaths are preventable, there is no formal policy that is in place to ensure that our young keikis are in a safe sleeping environment, positioned on their backs. **Hawaii is ONE of SEVEN states in the United States that does not regulate sleep positions in child care centers or family child care homes.**

By passing this measure, it will help prevent the occurrence of infants dying due to unsafe sleeping environments/positions. We strongly recommend you pass this measure. Thank you for your time and for the opportunity to express my support for SB 400.

Aloha,

Michelle Rho



Ulu  
Grow & Preserve

# Malama Family Recovery Center

## Malama Na Makua A Keiki, Inc.

Lisa Ponichtera, LMFT, CSAC  
Clinical Director  
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January 26, 2013

To: Representative Mele Carol, Chair  
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Human Services

RE: IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 400  
RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES

I am writing in support of SB 400. I am the Clinical Director of the only Women's substance abuse treatment facility on Maui. We offer a safe place for women and their children to receive treatment so they can return to being happy, healthy and productive members in our community. We have already adopted the recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics related to safe sleeping environments and sleep positions. Hawaii is one of only seven states that has not adopted safe sleeping policies for child care providers and family child care homes. I would strongly encourage that this measure be passed to help reduce the number of infant deaths caused by unsafe sleep positions and environments.

Respectfully,

Lisa Ponichtera, LMFT, CSAC  
Clinical Director – Malama Family Recovery Center

Jud R. Cunningham  
Chief Executive Officer

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Maui United Way  
Hawaii Island United Way



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To: **COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES**

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair, Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair

**COMMITTEE ON HEALTH**

Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

January 30, 2013 – 2:00pm  
Conference Room 229

**RE: SB 400 RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES**

Dear Chair Chun Oakland, Vice Chair Green, Vice Chair Baker, and members of the committee:

My name is Phoebe Mā'eie, a committee member of Safe Sleep Hawai'i and a staff member of Child & Family Service in the Parent Line and Homereach Program funded by the Department of Health. Parent Line/Homereach is a statewide program open to all of Hawaii's residents. I am contacting you to express my enthusiastic support for SB 400, Relating to Human Services.

Suffocation has been the leading cause of fatal injuries among healthy Hawai'i keiki under the age of 1 and is entirely preventable. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends all infants under the age of 1 to be placed in a safe sleeping environment which consists of sleeping on their backs. Sadly, there is no formal policy in place to ensure that our young keiki are in a safe sleeping environment. Hawai'i remains as one of only seven other states in the country that does not regulate infant sleep positions in child care centers or family child care homes.

Passing this measure will help prevent fatal injuries for our keiki in the future. SB 400 will ensure all child care facilities (including family child care homes, group child care centers, group child care homes, and infant toddler centers) develop, maintain, and implement safe sleep policies and prevent the occurrence of infant death due to unsafe sleeping environments/positions.

It is for these reasons that the Safe Sleep Hawai'i committee strongly recommends the passage of SB 400 to safeguard the future of our most valuable resource, our keiki. Thank-you for your time and the opportunity to express my support for SB 400.

Aloha,  
Phoebe Mā'eie

**Hawaii Chapter**

1580 Makaloa Street, Suite 1200  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814  
Telephone (808) 973-2155  
Fax (808) 973-2160

[marchofdimes.com/Hawaii](http://marchofdimes.com/Hawaii)

January 29, 2013

To: Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland  
Honorable Josh Green

From: Lin Joseph  
Director of Program Services  
March of Dimes Hawaii Chapter

Re: In strong support of  
**SB400**  
Hearing: Committee on Human Services  
Committee on Health  
Wednesday, January, 30, 2013 2:05pm  
Conference Room 229, State Capitol

Chair Chun Oakland, Chair Green, Members of the Committee:

I am writing to express support for SB 400, *which would require child care providers to develop, maintain and implement safe sleep policies for infants.*

For over 70 years, the March of Dimes has been a leader in maternal and child health. Our mission is to *improve the health of women of childbearing age, infants, and children. by preventing birth defects, premature birth, and infant mortality.* March of Dimes is in the midst of a long-term Prematurity Campaign to increase public awareness of the problems of prematurity and to decrease the rate of premature birth worldwide

Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) is the leading cause of death in babies between one month and one year old, and is most common among babies between two and four months old. Premature babies are at increased risk for SIDS. A study published in the January 2013 *Journal of Perinatology* found that extremely premature infants had a significantly higher risk of dying from SIDS than full term infants.

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) reports that one in five SIDS deaths occurs while an infant is in the care of someone other than a parent. Many of these deaths happen when babies who are accustomed to sleeping on their backs at home are placed on their tummies for sleep by another caregiver. At the March of Dimes NICU Family Support Program at Kapiolani Medical Center for Women & Children, we provide families with infants in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit the AAP's *Parent's Guide to Safe Sleep* that emphasizes "Tummy to Play and Back to Sleep." The guide also recommends that parents talk to their baby's caregivers about reducing the risk of SIDS through safe sleep.

Senate Bill 400 would ensure that all registered or licensed child care providers would have the policies in place to maintain safe sleep environments for infants in Hawaii. March of Dimes urges the Committees on Human Services and Health to pass SB 400.

From: [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
To: [HMS Testimony](#)  
Cc: [nkern5@yahoo.com](mailto:nkern5@yahoo.com)  
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB400 on Jan 30, 2013 14:05PM  
Date: Friday, January 25, 2013 5:01:41 PM

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## SB400

Submitted on: 1/25/2013

Testimony for HMS/HTH on Jan 30, 2013 14:05PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Kern	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Name: Nancy Kern 1933 Ualakaa Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822 Phone Number: 220-2722 Email: [nkern5@yahoo.com](mailto:nkern5@yahoo.com) To: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair Senate Committee on Human Services RE: IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 400 RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Committee Members, My name is Nancy Kern. I currently work for the Department of Health, in the Injury Prevention and Control Section, as the Suicide Prevention Coordinator. I am providing this testimony, however, as a private citizen. Thank you for this opportunity to provide my testimony in strong support of SB 400, Relating to Human Services. I had a twin daughter, Colleen Kern, who died at the age of 4 months from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) in 1977. The sadness and despair experienced by my husband and myself from this loss was unimaginable. Following Colleen's death, I worked for many years on efforts related to preventing SIDS in Hawaii, serving as president of the Hawaii SIDS Foundation for several years. One of our main priorities was to educate the public on the significance of placing babies to sleep on their backs. From my personal perspective, SB 400 should be passed, as research demonstrates that back-sleeping decreases the rate of SIDS deaths, and - therefore - would lessen the tragedy that afflicts families in Hawaii when they experience the death of their infant due to SIDS. We all have a responsibility to ensure that all Hawaii's infants in child care facilities are placed down to sleep in a safe environment. This is a relatively small step to take for such a significant result: a safer environment for all babies who are cared for at child care centers statewide. Thank you for seriously considering the passage of this bill and for caring for the health and well-being for our infants. Aloha, Nancy Kern

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**Lisa Dau, RN**

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lisadau@hawaii.rr.com

**To:** Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Human Services

**RE: IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 400**  
RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Committee Members,

My name is Lisa Dau, RN employee at a large medical center on Oahu. Thank you for this opportunity to provide my testimony in **strong support of SB 400**, Relating to Human Services.

Suffocation has been the leading cause of fatal injuries among healthy keikis under the age of 1. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends all infants under the age of 1 to sleep on their backs, in a safe sleeping environment. Hawaii is one of seven states in the United States that does not regulate sleep positions in child care centers or family child care homes. By passing this measure, it will help ensure all Hawaii's infants in child care facilities to sleep in a safe environment and prevent the occurrence of infants dying due to unsafe sleeping environments/positions. We strongly recommend you pass this measure. Thank you for your time.

Aloha,

Lisa M. Dau, RN



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HMS Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [joannachongkee@yahoo.com](mailto:joannachongkee@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB400 on Jan 30, 2013 14:05PM  
**Date:** Friday, January 25, 2013 9:16:21 PM  
**Attachments:** [image.jpg](#)

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SB400

Submitted on: 1/25/2013

Testimony for HMS/HTH on Jan 30, 2013 14:05PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
JOANNA CHONG KEE	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My 4 month old son died of positional asphyxiation after have been laid down for a nap by his babysitter! I strongly support HB 398 & SB400!!!

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**To:** [HMS Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [glennsakai@yahoo.com](mailto:glennsakai@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB400 on Jan 30, 2013 14:05PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2013 3:47:34 PM

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SB400

Submitted on: 1/29/2013

Testimony for HMS/HTH on Jan 30, 2013 14:05PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Glenn Sakai	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Prone Sleeping Position is one of the major risk factors associated with Sudden Unexpected Infant Death, more commonly referred to as SIDS. Sleeping on the back has been recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics in 1992 to avoid SIDS. The incident of SIDS has declined considerably in those countries in which the back-to-bed recommendation has been adopted, the United States and New Zealand, among them. As you are well aware, Hawaii does not regulate child care facilities on safe sleep positions. Despite the decrease in SIDS, it remains the number one cause of infant mortality as reported by Dr. Mary Patrinos, MD with our University of Hawaii's Department of Pediatrics, John A. Burns School of Medicine. There is no greater loss than that of a child dying due to an unsafe sleeping environment especially when it is preventable. Thank you for your time and this opportunity to express my strong support of SB400.

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