

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
P.O. Box 3378  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:  
File:

**Senate Committee on Health  
Senate Committee on Human Services**

**HB2037, HD1, Relating to Project Kealahou**

**Testimony of Linda Rosen, M.D., M.P.H.  
Director of Health**

**March 20, 2014, 1:45 p.m., Room 016**

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health (DOH) strongly supports passage of this measure,  
2 provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive  
3 Supplemental Budget Request.

4 **Fiscal Implications:** An estimated \$216,701 in general funds, to be expended by the DOH in Fiscal  
5 Year 2014-2015 will be required to retain three specially trained Intensive Support Workers in Project  
6 Kealahou as the amount of the federal funding is incrementally reduced. The personnel cost for  
7 maintaining the three positions is \$216,701 (base salary of \$45,000 each, 42.04% fringe, and 13.01%  
8 indirect cost). The Executive Budget Request to the 2014 Legislature for DOH requests a \$50,000  
9 appropriation to the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division (HTH 460) for Project Kealahou.  
10 Together with the Governor's \$50,000 budget request, \$166,701 in general funds is necessary to keep  
11 the three experienced Intensive Support Workers on staff to continue their work with traumatized girls.

12 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose of this measure is to ensure the continuation of Project  
13 Kealahou ("new pathways" in Hawaiian), a six-year federally-funded grant. The funding will allow the  
14 project to continue its mission to provide girls with a community-based, individualized, culturally and

1 linguistically competent, family-driven, youth-guided, and evidence based services as federal funding  
2 incrementally steps down.

3 Project Kealahou is an innovative new program that was designed to address challenges  
4 encountered by adolescent girls. It emphasizes gender-responsive and trauma-informed care for females  
5 age eleven through twenty-one who have experienced significant trauma in their lives. Over the past 3  
6 years, 150 girls have been served. Data collected to date indicate that the program is effective at  
7 engaging youth, improving girls' functioning and at reducing the strain felt by their parents. At six  
8 months follow-up, there was demonstrated improvement, such as decreased youth impairment,  
9 decreased youth depression, decreased youth behavior or emotional problems, reduced arrest rates,  
10 improved youth competence, and improved school attendance. Project Kealahou offers a relatively low-  
11 cost array of community-based services and supports that provide cost-effective deterrents and  
12 alternatives to more expensive and disruptive out-of- home placements for youth and a range of cultural  
13 and recreational community-based group activities to help youth and their families.

14 Currently Project Kealahou is funded through a federal grant. As we near the end of the grant,  
15 the amount of the grant has been incrementally reduced and will fully expire in 2016. To continue  
16 working with the target population of traumatized girls, we are requesting that Project Kealahou  
17 maintain its full staffing complement in the next year. Without additional funds, we will need to let go of  
18 three experienced Intensive Support Workers, and the girls they serve could be re-traumatized when  
19 they lose their close relationships with trusted adults.

20 We appreciate and thank the Women's Legislative Caucus for championing this important  
21 program. We thank you for the opportunity to testify.



*The Judiciary, State of Hawai'i*

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Human Services**

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

The Honorable Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Health**

The Honorable Josh Green, M.D., Chair

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker., Vice Chair

Thursday, March 20, 2014, 1:45 p.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 016

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY**

By

R. Mark Browning

Deputy Chief Judge, Senior Family Judge

Family Court of the First Circuit

---

**Bill No. and Title:** House Bill No. 2037, HD1, Relating to Project Kealahou

**Purpose:** Appropriates monies for the continued funding of Project Kealahou, within the Child and Adolescent Mental Health division of the Department of Health. Effective July 1, 2050. (HD1)

**Judiciary's Position:**

The Judiciary submits this testimony in strong support of House Bill No. 2037, House Draft 1, which will enable Project Kealahou to continue operating after a six year appropriation of federal funds ends this year.

Several years ago, when the family court began researching the need for a Girls Court, two primary findings became clear early in our research: (1) nearly all of the girls in the court system, regardless of age, had suffered major trauma and were exhibiting acting out behaviors in



House Bill No. 2037, H.D.1, Relating to Project Kealahou  
Senate Committee of Human Services  
Senate Committee on Health  
Thursday, March 20, 2014 at 1:45 p.m.  
Page 2

an effort to cope with the past trauma and (2) the juvenile justice system, developed in response to boys' misbehaviors, had very little expertise when it came to dealing with girls.

Project Kealahou has and continues to address these two findings. The program has and continues to provide valuable services to girls who have suffered from child abuse/neglect, bullying, domestic violence, date rape, exploitation by older men in the sex trade, and human trafficking. Project Kealahou provides a spectrum of services including specialized therapy as well as in-community, holistic strategies such as mentoring and peer support. Of equal importance to their direct service delivery, Project Kealahou has also begun very important steps to share their hard earned expertise by writing curriculum for professional training and have begun plans to offer this training to other service providers.

Project Kealahou is an important partner to the family court. Failure to fund its continuation will result in the loss of crucial expertise and will deprive critical services to our most vulnerable youth. Such loss will result in human and economic losses for the youth and our community. We respectfully request passage of this bill with an approved appropriation amount and that the funding become effective in the state's next fiscal year.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill.



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

March 18, 2014

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

The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
Senate Committee on Health

FROM: David Hipp, Executive Director

**SUBJECT: H.B. 2037, HD 1 – Relating to Project Kealahou**

Hearing: Thursday, March 20, 2014; 1:45 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 016

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of H.B. 2037, HD 1 is to appropriate funds for the continued funding of Project Kealahou within the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division of the Department of Health.

**OFFICE'S POSITION:** The Office of Youth Services (OYS) supports H.B. 2037, HD 1.

Project Kealahou offers critical services to girls who have suffered from trauma – trauma that may be the result of a myriad of factors: child abuse, domestic violence, and date rape to identify only a few of the horrific events these victimized girls may have experienced.

The service array offered by Project Kealahou ranges from in-community, culturally based, holistic strategies such as mentoring and peer support to specialized therapy. Project Kealahou has also been in a leader in the provision of trauma-informed care training for other agencies and service providers.

It is tragic that we have adolescent girls who at such a young age have experienced trauma in their lives, and these girls subsequently require interventions unique to their presenting needs – and Project Kealahou offers such interventions.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

# 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](mailto: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 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

March 17, 2014

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

Senator Josh Green, Chair  
And members of the Committee on Health

## **Testimony in Support of HB 2037 HD 1 Relating to Project Kealahou**

Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports HB 2037 HD 1 Relating to Project Kealahou.

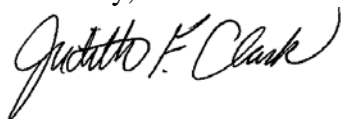
Project Kealahou provides mental health and family support services to girls who have experienced trauma. The program is currently funded through a federal grant that will be phased out.

Funding from the Hawaii Legislature will allow this effective, evidence-informed program to continue to provide therapy and education to the girls and their families, which results in better parent/child communication and increased school attendance. The program reduces the risk of suicide and family violence as well as future involvement in the juvenile and adult criminal justice systems.

I have served on the Executive Committee for Project Kealahou for the past 5 years and have seen the positive effects on the youth and their families.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark, MPH  
Executive Director

March 20, 2014

Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
Senate Committee on Human Services

Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
Senate Committee on Health

Re: HB 2037, HD1– Relating to Project Kealahou – Support  
Senate Committees on Human Services and Health  
March 20, 2014, 1:45 p.m.–Conference Room 016

Aloha Chair Chun Oakland, Chair Green and members of the committee:

My name is Noriko Namiki, Chief Executive Officer of the YWCA of O'ahu, testifying in support for HB 2037, HD1, to appropriate \$50,000 in funding for Project Kealahou.

Project Kealahou is a federally funded initiative that bridges juvenile justice, child welfare, mental health, and education systems to bring life skills and build support for girls between ages 11 to 18 who have experienced significant trauma in their lives. The program helps adolescent girls reconnect with their land, themselves, and their families through activities such as Girls Circle, individual support and mentoring and other group activities.

We firmly believe this legislative appropriation is much needed to preserve this safety net and to connect gaps in funding that provides service to girls connected with Project Kealahou. For these reasons, we humbly urge members of this committee to pass this bill.

Since its founding in 1900, the YWCA of O'ahu exists to cultivate opportunities for women's and girls' growth and leadership, to help them create fulfilling lives for themselves and their families, and facilitating social change with positive economic impact for their communities.

Sincerely,



Noriko Namiki  
CEO  
YWCA of O'ahu

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [kat.caphi@gmail.com](mailto:kat.caphi@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB2037 on Mar 20, 2014 13:45PM  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 5:04:45 PM

---

**HB2037**

Submitted on: 3/17/2014

Testimony for HTH/HMS on Mar 20, 2014 13:45PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kat Brady	Community Alliance on Prisons	Support	No

Comments: Please support this terrific program for girls to address their needs and to prevent them from entering the adult system! Mahalo nui! Kat

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [admin@hawaiipublicpolicy.com](mailto:admin@hawaiipublicpolicy.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB2037 on Mar 20, 2014 13:45PM  
**Date:** Monday, March 17, 2014 5:58:35 PM

---

**HB2037**

Submitted on: 3/17/2014

Testimony for HTH/HMS on Mar 20, 2014 13:45PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melissa Pavlicek	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Project Kealahou is an extremely important program in the state Department of Health. Continued support is needed in order to make best use of federal funds as well as to continue the gains for girls, many of whom are trauma victims. Please support this bill.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [breaking-the-silence@hotmail.com](mailto:breaking-the-silence@hotmail.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB2037 on Mar 20, 2014 13:45PM\*  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 18, 2014 10:07:04 AM

---

**HB2037**

Submitted on: 3/18/2014

Testimony for HTH/HMS on Mar 20, 2014 13:45PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dara Carlin, M.A.	Individual	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [cymbase@gmail.com](mailto:cymbase@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB2037 on Mar 20, 2014 13:45PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 18, 2014 1:04:37 PM

---

**HB2037**

Submitted on: 3/18/2014

Testimony for HTH/HMS on Mar 20, 2014 13:45PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Chuck Murata	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in support of HB2037, HD1 in the hopes that its implementation date and the total amount be the numbers suggested in the Department of Health's testimony. I am submitting this testimony as a concerned Kaimuki resident and registered voter in senate district 9. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB2037, HD1 Relating to Project Kealahou.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**Re: Testimony in Support of HB2037 HD1  
Relating to Project Kealahou**

Date: March 11, 2014

To: Representative Josh Green, Chair/ Vice Chair  
Representative Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
Representative Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair  
Members of the Committees on Health and Human Services

From: Nicole Tsuchiya, MSW Student

Hearing: Thursday, March 20, 2014  
1:45 p.m. (CR 016)

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of HB2037 HD1.

My name is Nicole Tsuchiya. I am a Master's of Social Work student at the University of Hawaii. I am currently interning at the Family Treatment Center at the Queen's Medical Center, where I work closely with Hawaii's child and adolescent mental health population.

My academic and practicum experiences have provided me with the knowledge base of best practices and gender competence. Gender differences, such as biological and social factors, make girls more susceptible to different types of trauma than boys. Such gender differences influence the ways in which girls experience, respond to, and cope with trauma. As one of the only gender-specific resources available to girls with emotional, behavioral and mental health challenges in Hawaii, Project Kealahou has proven to be a valuable initiative for serving the unique needs of girls. According to Project Kealahou's 2013 project evaluation, more than 200 11-18 year old girls and their families have benefited from this quality system of care since its initiation. Through the services provided, participants have developed cognitively, emotionally, and socially; demonstrated through significant improvements in well-being, school attendance and grades, family relationships, pro-social behaviors, and arrest rates.

As a strong advocate for Hawaii's youth, I can attest to the need for the appropriation of proposed funds for Project Kealahou to continue to provide gender-specific, community-based, trauma-informed, comprehensive, and individualized services necessary for effectively fostering the recovery and resiliency of one of Hawaii's most vulnerable populations. The renewal of funding to the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division for Project Kealahou is valuable to the program's current and future participants as well as society at large. Adequate funding will allow this great initiative to continue developing *new pathways* for Hawaii's at-risk girls who deserve the opportunity to build promising futures and become productive members of society.

I appreciate the opportunity to testify in support of HB2037 HD1. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nicole Tsuchiya

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [kelly.sage@student.chaminade.edu](mailto:kelly.sage@student.chaminade.edu)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB2037 on Mar 20, 2014 13:45PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 19, 2014 12:55:00 PM

---

**HB2037**

Submitted on: 3/19/2014

Testimony for HTH/HMS on Mar 20, 2014 13:45PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kelly King	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support H.B. 2037 and Project Kealahou. Girls often fall through the cracks in the public child-serving system, however with Project Kealahou they have a program tailored to their needs and challenges they face in life. We can't continue to cycle them through courts and repeating the same acts expecting different results. We need Project Kealahou to help solve the root problems, instead of just treating the symptoms! I support this bill.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [angela.dang@student.chaminade.edu](mailto:angela.dang@student.chaminade.edu)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB2037 on Mar 20, 2014 13:45PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 19, 2014 4:45:00 PM

---

**HB2037**

Submitted on: 3/19/2014

Testimony for HTH/HMS on Mar 20, 2014 13:45PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Angela Dang	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I believe that this program is essential in Hawaii especially because there is no other program like it anywhere else. We need to help girls who have been victimized and help them to heal. We need to provide them with this guidance in order for them to live better lives. This will help them in life to not end up in the system because there was no support and their parents won't have the tools to help their daughter. Please continue to support this project.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [brooke.sablan@student.chaminade.edu](mailto:brooke.sablan@student.chaminade.edu)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB2037 on Mar 20, 2014 13:45PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 19, 2014 5:10:08 PM

---

**HB2037**

Submitted on: 3/19/2014

Testimony for HTH/HMS on Mar 20, 2014 13:45PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
brooke sablan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Project Kealahou is a program that is unique in every way possible. This program is solely dedicated to helping the young girls and young women in the community with dealing with traumatic experiences due to abuse of any which sort. Many may wonder why such a program is so important. To a person that has been a victim of abuse, and to families that may not know how to handle the chain of abuse this program seems to be their way out. Their way out of their trauma, their bad habits and bad decisions due to their trauma, and really a step in the right direction of healing and making smart decisions. Young girls really do play a part in determining how the future of the community will look like in the future and this program dedicated to helping them better themselves is a program that is both beneficial and necessary.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [Jeannine](#)  
**To:** [HMS Testimony](#); [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** HMS-HTH Hearing 3/20/14 Room 015 at 1:45 PM - Support for HB2037 HD1 (Project Kealahou)  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 19, 2014 5:46:38 PM

---

Aloha Chair Chun Oakland, Chair Green and Members:

As a private individual, I am testifying in strong support for HB 2037, HD 1, to appropriate funding for the continuation of Project Kealahou.

Project Kealahou addresses critical gaps in state's juvenile justice, child welfare, mental health, and education systems to bring valuable life skills to adolescent girls who have experienced significant trauma in their lives.

The State Judiciary affirmed the importance of this program and noted, in its testimony on February 20, 2014, that nearly all of the girls in the court system had experienced major trauma from child abuse/neglect, bullying, domestic violence, date rape, or sexual exploitation. It also found that the state juvenile justice system had very little expertise when dealing with girls.

Project Kealahou fills this gap and helps girls in the juvenile justice system heal and gain support through mentoring, counseling and other group activities.

I humbly urge your passage of this bill and appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony in support of this program.

Sincerely,  
Jeannine Souki



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [japmandm@gmail.com](mailto:japmandm@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB2037 on Mar 20, 2014 13:45PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 19, 2014 8:13:40 PM

---

**HB2037**

Submitted on: 3/19/2014

Testimony for HTH/HMS on Mar 20, 2014 13:45PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Marcus Miguel	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support the funding of Project Kealahou because Hawaii needs a program directed at helping girls who are at risk. Runaways are a huge problem in Hawaii (and of girls across the country), and this program addresses problems like this. This program will help these girls feel more comfortable about themselves and deter them from committing such status offenses. In the years this program has been running, there appears to be significant successes with the girls who were in the program. There is no other program like it, and yet there needs to be more of these programs to help girls. Please fund Project Kealahou and help keep girls off the streets.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [lauren.chun@student.chaminade.edu](mailto:lauren.chun@student.chaminade.edu)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB2037 on Mar 20, 2014 13:45PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 19, 2014 8:23:07 PM

---

**HB2037**

Submitted on: 3/19/2014

Testimony for HTH/HMS on Mar 20, 2014 13:45PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lauren Chun	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to speak with Tia Roberts, the project director, about Project Kealahou, and I was very impressed with the work that was being done. This project is unique in that it caters to the needs of teenage girls in Hawaii. Girls that suffer from trauma or abuse should be able to feel comfortable sharing their past experiences in an environment with others that can relate to them. I believe that Project Kealahou provides that place of comfort by incorporating open discussions with therapists and those they feel safe around. Some teenage girls suffer many different types of abuse including physical, sexual and emotional abuse. Project Kealahou caters to these types of trauma cases, which is very important in keeping these girls on the right track.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [julianne.mao@student.chaminade.edu](mailto:julianne.mao@student.chaminade.edu)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB2037 on Mar 20, 2014 13:45PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 19, 2014 11:43:19 PM

---

**HB2037**

Submitted on: 3/19/2014

Testimony for HTH/HMS on Mar 20, 2014 13:45PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Julianne Mao	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this bill because it is an unique program in its own way. There are not many programs designed to help females at risk. If there is at least a decent amount of money to help keep the program going, then its a good investment and it'll be worth it. If not, pretty soon, the prisons will be crowded with not only male prisoners but females as well, and those numbers are increasing. Please take a bet on this project; it's purpose is serving the community at a low cost and helping with issues in which have affected females.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

From: [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
To: [HTHTestimony](#)  
Cc: [ebarlow227@gmail.com](mailto:ebarlow227@gmail.com)  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2037 on Mar 20, 2014 13:45PM  
Date: Thursday, March 20, 2014 8:45:08 AM

---

## **HB2037**

Submitted on: 3/20/2014

Testimony for HTH/HMS on Mar 20, 2014 13:45PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
emily barlow	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Growing up as a young girl is extremely hard to do now a days. As girls we expect to be like the women we see on the tv screens, objectifying ourselves and belonging to a man. These are the things that get us in trouble, young girls are having sex at an earlier age, being introduced to drugs and alcohol earlier and belonging to a man whom we think love us. I am a 20 year old college student at Chaminade who has been through drama like these girls have gone through, I have been raped twice and physically assaulted twice, all by different people. And although I may seem like I have my life together now, it certainly wasn't easy...it still isn't easy. I am from New York and I wish I had a program like this that I could have went to for help instead of bottling everything up and never telling what ever happened to me because everyone in my community had high expectations of me and this would only disappoint them. I was depressed, I gained a substantial amount of weight, I lost interest in school and sports, I cut my wrists, I turned to drugs and I lost all of my friends, all because I thought I had no where to go. My mother became livid of my existence and I was the talk of the school, the "slut", the "whore"....everybody knew what had happened, but they had no idea he had raped me...they thought I wanted it. It was the most absolute worst time in my entire life and one day someone had said the most horrible thing about me and I realized I was now objectifying myself to men and using alcohol and drugs to numb myself from the pain and reality and decided to get my life back on track...this wasn't who I was. I saved myself, I got clean and started caring again and my life became as back to normal in my small town as it would ever get. I knew getting away from there would be the best thing for me, so I came in college in Hawaii. I may have been able to get through my problems on my own but it was the hardest thing I have ever had to do, and I truly believe most girls could not do what I have done. We, young girls, need this program for guidance, to remind us who we are and to show us someone cares and doesn't blame us for our mistakes as a young adult. The success rate of this program is so very high, and wouldn't the state want to help these young girls now so they won't be incarcerated later, causing overcrowding and using up the money without even providing them with help to make sure they won't be locked up again. Girls runaway, use drugs and become sex objects because they are looking for someone to care for them, to love them and to always be there for them...they wouldn't have to do that if this program was there for them. These girls don't deserve to be locked up, they

deserve to be HELPED. We NEED to help these girls, to give them hope, opportunities, chances to be whoever or whatever they want to be in life, we need to give them the chance to show them the grass truly is greener on the other side and that they can do it and I promise you passing this bill will be one of the best things you ever do, girls need this. Passing this program will not hurt anyone or anything in anyway...it can do nothing but help...all it will do is help, help young girls who are lost and need the most help they can get to have bright futures. Why wouldn't we want to try and save as many traumatized girls as we can...I think this programs is one of the best things for girls who need help...and I most certainly wish it was there for me, I could've used the help along the way and maybe, just maybe what happened to me still wouldn't be destroying my mind and self worth. Please pass this Bill, it would benefit so many people.

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.

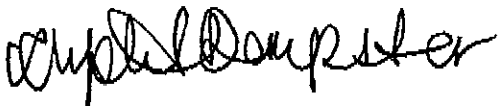
Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

March 13, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I support of HB2037 HD1/SB2449 relating to Project Kealahou. I believe girls are unique and need special services to meet their needs. Please pass this bill for Hawaii's girls.

Signed,

  
Crystal Dempster  
Kapolei, HI

March 13, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

Please support HB2037 HD1/SB2449 relating to Project Kealahou. This program helps Hawaii girls get through difficult times in the lives, and truly begin to heal. Please pass this bill.

Signed, *Amanda Hess*

*Amanda Hess, MSCP*

*91-1013 Kulea St.*

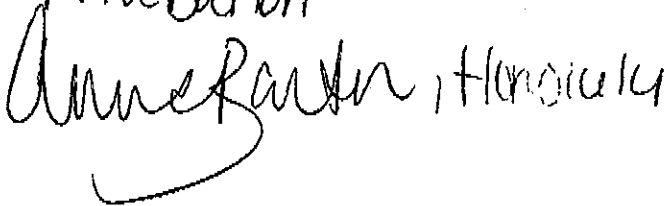
*Kapolei, HI 96707*

March 13, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I support of HB2037 HD1/SB2449 relating to Project Kealahou. I believe girls are unique and need special services to meet their needs. Please pass this bill for Hawaii's girls.

Signed,

Anna Barton  
 Anna Barton, Honolulu

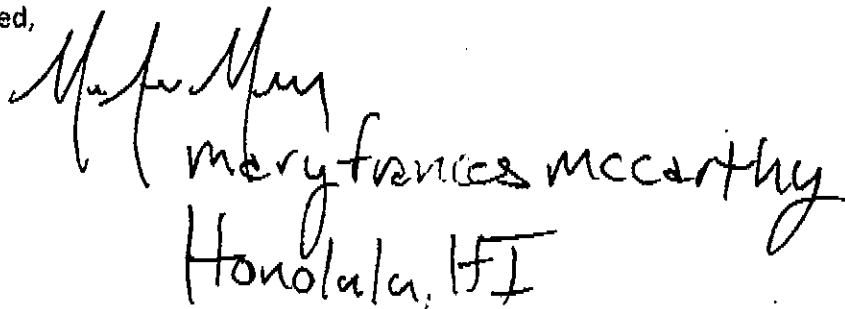


March 13, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

Please support HB2037 HD1/SB2449 relating to Project Kealahou. I support this bill because this program provides hope and healing for Hawaii girls. I want to see this program continue, and even be expanded.

Signed,

  
Mary Frances McCarthy  
Honolulu, HI

March 13, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

Please support HB2037 HD1/SB2449 relating to Project Kealahou. This program helps Hawaii girls get through difficult times in the lives, and truly begin to heal. Please pass this bill.

Signed,



RON LUM


RESIDENT OF WAIPAHU

March 13, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I support of HB2037 HD1/SB2449 relating to Project Kealahou. I believe girls are unique and need special services to meet their needs. Please pass this bill for Hawaii's girls.

Signed,

Handwritten signature of Crystal F. Brown in black ink.

Crystal F. Brown

resident of HONOLULU, HI 96813

March 13, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

Please support HB2037 HD1/SB2449 relating to Project Kealahou. This program helps Hawaii girls get through difficult times in the lives, and truly begin to heal. Please pass this bill.

Signed,

Erica Yamauchi

eyamauchi

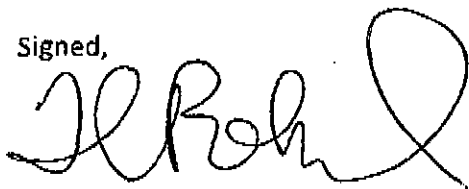
Wilhemina Rise - 96816

March 13, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

Please support HB2037 HD1/SB2449 relating to Project Kealahou. I support this bill because this program provides hope and healing for Hawaii girls. I want to see this program continue, and even be expanded.

Signed,



Tia Roberts

Resident of Kaimuki, HI

96816

March 13, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

Please support HB2037 HD1/SB2449 relating to Project Kealahou. I support this bill because this program provides hope and healing for Hawaii girls. I want to see this program continue, and even be expanded.

Signed,



William C Cadere

resident of Hawaii Kai 96825

March 13, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

Please support HB2037 HD1/SB2449 relating to Project Kealahou. I support this bill because this program provides hope and healing for Hawaii girls. I want to see this program continue, and even be expanded.

Signed,

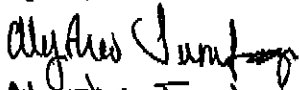
Mary Burgess  
Maile, Waianae 96792  
808.541.7937

March 13, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

Please support HB2037 HD1/SB2449 relating to Project Kealahou. I support this bill because this program provides hope and healing for Hawaii girls. I want to see this program continue, and even be expanded.

Signed,

  
ALYSHA TUMBAGA

Wailuku, HI 96793




March 13, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

Please support HB2037 HD1/SB2449 relating to Project Kealahou. I support this bill because this program provides hope and healing for Hawaii girls. I want to see this program continue, and even be expanded.

Signed,

  
Kelli A. Haaff  
Wailuku, HI 96793

March 13, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

Please support HB2037 HD1/SB2449 relating to Project Kealahou. I support this bill because this program provides hope and healing for Hawaii girls. I want to see this program continue, and even be expanded.

Signed,



RICHARD B. DELEON

WAIMANALO, HI

March 13, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

Please support HB2037 HD1/SB2449 relating to Project Kealahou. This program helps Hawaii girls get through difficult times in the lives, and truly begin to heal. Please pass this bill.

Signed,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. DeLeon', with a large, stylized initial 'R'.

RICHARD B. DELEON  
WAIMANALO, HI

March 13, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I support of HB2037 HD1/SB2449 relating to Project Kealahou. I believe girls are unique and need special services to meet their needs. Please pass this bill for Hawaii's girls.

Signed,

*Amma-Maria Beck, LCSW, ICDAE*


*Amma-Maria Beck  
41-114 Waimanalo, HI 96795*

March 13, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I support of HB2037 HD1/SB2449 relating to Project Kealahou. I believe girls are unique and need special services to meet their needs. Please pass this bill for Hawaii's girls.

Signed,

 *Chad Danning*  
*President of Waikele HI*

March 13, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

Please support HB2037 HD1/SB2449 relating to Project Kealahou. I support this bill because this program provides hope and healing fo. Hawaii girls. I want to see this program continue, and even be expanded.

Signed,



Christine Matsuura  
Resident of Aiea, Hawaii