



COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S COUNCIL OF HAWAII  
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February 20, 2014

Senator David Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair  
Chairs of the Ways and Means Committee – State Capitol

RE: SB2054, SD1 – Relating to Health  
Health; Insurance; Mandatory Health Coverage; Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD)  
Requires health insurers, mutual benefit societies, and health maintenance organizations to provide coverage for autism spectrum disorder treatments.

The 17 Community Children's Councils (CCCs) **support** SB2054 SD1. We agree that children with ASD benefit academically, socially and behaviorally from early diagnosis and treatment utilizing evidence-based interventions, such as applied behavior analysis. The 17 Community Children's Councils (CCCs) have been involved for the past several years in providing input to the development of this bill. We firmly urge the passage of this bill.

The 17 Community Children's Councils (CCCs) are community-based bodies comprised of parents, professionals in both public and private agencies and other interested persons who are concerned with specialized services provided to Hawaii's students. Membership is diverse, voluntary and advisory in nature. The CCCs are in rural and urban communities organized around the Complexes in the Department of Education.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify if there are any questions or you need further information please contact us at 586-5370

Sincerely yours

Tom Smith, Co-Chair

Jessica Wong-Sumida, Co-Chair

(Original signatures are on file with the CCCO)



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2054 on Feb 20, 2014 09:00AM  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 19, 2014 3:31:47 PM

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**SB2054**

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michelle Uilani Chung	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support the testimony of the Community Children's Council.

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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**STATE OF HAWAII**  
STATE COUNCIL  
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
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February 20, 2014

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Twenty-Seventh Legislature  
State Capitol  
State of Hawaii  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Ige and Members of the Committee:

**SUBJECT: SB 2054 SD1 – RELATING TO HEALTH**

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **SUPPORTS THE INTENT OF SB 2054 SD1**. The bill requires health insurers, mutual benefit societies, and health maintenance organizations to provide health care coverage and benefits for autism spectrum disorders (ASD).

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, about 1 in 88 children have been identified with ASD. That rate is anticipated to significantly increase in the next decade. With this alarming rate, it is imperative that children with ASD are provided with early diagnosis and treatment. Evidence-based practice shows that early identification and treatment results in overall improved outcomes for children with ASD. Moreover, services provided early on may decrease or minimize long-term services and supports needed as the child becomes an adult and through the individual's lifetime

SB 2054 SD1 provides comprehensive coverage of services, including well-baby and well-child screening diagnosis and evidence-based treatment for individuals with ASD under 21 years of age. There are two other bills before this Legislature. HB 2174 HD2 is pending House Finance Committee, and SB 668 SD2 HD1 was addressed during the 2013 Regular Session, deferred in Conference Committee on April 26, 2013, and carried over to this session.

The Council acknowledges that the above three bills are a work in progress and appreciates the opportunity for continued discussions between the Legislature and stakeholders to work out the specific provisions of each bill to develop a final measure that comprehensively addresses the needs of individuals with ASD.

The Honorable David Y. Ige  
Page 2  
February 20, 2014

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments **supporting the intent of SB 2054 SD1.**

Sincerely,



Waynette K.Y. Cabral, M.S.W.  
Executive Administrator



J. Curtis Tyler, III  
Chair