

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**  
919 Ala Moana Boulevard, 4th Floor  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

**LATE**

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TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2308  
RELATING TO CHILDREN

by  
Ted Sakai, Director  
Department of Public Safety

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs  
Senator Will Espero, Chair  
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

Committee on Human Services  
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair

Tuesday, January 28, 2014; 2:45 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224

Chairs Espero and Chun Oakland, Vice Chairs Baker and Green, and Members of the Committees:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) is in **support** of Senate Bill 2308, Relating to Children. The Department supports providing social services and programs for the children who have a parent(s) in the prison system.

Currently, PSD contracts with qualified private vendors to provide individual and family therapy sessions to male and female inmates with substance abuse issues, who are preparing to transition to the community after a lengthy period of incarceration. The program attempts to address family core issues, prior to the inmate's placement on furlough.

This bill will provide PSD the opportunity to expand these types of programs to all willing inmates who may have children that have been emotionally or behaviorally affected by the incarceration of a parent(s).

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.



**HPCA**

HAWAII PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION

**LATE**

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The Hon. Will Espero, Chair

The Hon. Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

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**Testimony on SB 2308**

**Relating to Children**

**Submitted by Robert Hirokawa, Chief Executive Officer**

**01/28/2014, 2:45 P.M., Room 224**

The Hawai'i Primary Care Association, which represents community health centers in Hawai'i, **supports** Senate Bill 2308 which provides \$250,000 for programs and services for children of incarcerated parents and assisting with family reunification.

The HPCA is a staunch believer in the social determinants of health, those economic and social conditions that influence an individual and a community's health status. These conditions serve as risk factors endemic to a person's living and working environment. Factors such as income, education, access to recreation and healthy foods, housing, and employment, can and do have measurable impacts on a person and a community, both in health and financial outcomes. Incarceration of a parent has an undeniable effect on these and many other social determinants of health, particularly for the child/children. For these reasons we support Senate Bill 2308.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.