



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE, 2014**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

S.B. NO. 2441, S.D. 1, RELATING TO YOUTH.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

DATE: Thursday, February 20, 2014

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 211

TESTIFIER(S): David M. Louie, Attorney General, or
Blair Goto, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Ige and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General provides the following comments.

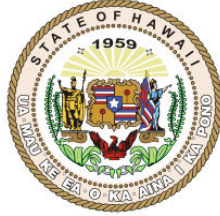
The purpose of the bill is to establish the resources for an enrichment, athletics, culture, and health (R.E.A.C.H.) program within the Office of Youth Services (Office), to establish a revolving fund to support the R.E.A.C.H. program, and to appropriate \$3,100,000 into and out of the revolving fund to operate the program including the hiring of one full-time equivalent position in the Office.

The new section that establishes the revolving fund (fund) is incomplete. On page 6 of the bill, lines 1-13, the new section (section 352D-C) both creates the fund and specifies sources of the fund. Section 352D-C does not, however, specify the uses for which moneys in the fund may be expended. The absence of this statutory wording will prevent the expenditure of moneys in the fund.

The simplest way to enable expenditure of moneys in the fund is to add on page 6 of the bill a subsection (c) to section 352D-C that describes the uses for which moneys in the fund may be expended. An example of subsection (c) might read:

- (c) Moneys in the R.E.A.C.H. program revolving fund shall be used to supplement the costs of administering and operating after-school programs in middle and intermediate public schools. The office may also use the money to:
- (1) Hire personnel to oversee implementation of the R.E.A.C.H. program;
 - (2) Promote after-school program activities;
 - (3) Conduct after-school education and demonstration projects;
 - (4) Contract for services for after school programs; and
 - (5) Fund associated office expenses.

We respectfully ask the Committee to include wording in the bill that specifies the uses of moneys in the fund if the bill is to pass.



OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

TESTIMONY OF
THE OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

SENATE BILL NO. 2441, SD1
Relating to Youth After-School Programs

February 20, 2014

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the committees, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **strong support** of Senate Bill No. (SB) 2441, SD1. This measure seeks to establish a program and funding to provide after-school programs in public middle and intermediate schools throughout the state of Hawaii. R.E.A.C.H., which is an acronym for resources for enrichment, athletics, culture and health is an initiative aimed at keeping Hawaii's youth engaged and excited about learning during the afterschool hours so they can stay on the right path towards high school graduation and be better prepared for future success. Programs offered will be from three general categories: academic enrichment, arts and culture, and athletics.

SB 2441, SD1 establishes new sections under Chapter 352D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to establish the R.E.A.C.H. program in the Office of Youth Services in order to provide a standardized framework for afterschool programs offered in public middle/intermediate schools. The program would be administered by the Office of Youth Services through an appropriation of \$3.1 million, including one full-time equivalent position. Provisions in the bill allow for participation fees to be established which would serve to enhance the sustainability of the program. The bill also establishes a revolving fund to receive the fees and other moneys to supplement the cost of administering and operating the program. Furthermore, the \$3.1 million appropriation in this measure has already been included in the Executive Supplemental Budget and, therefore, has been accounted for by the Administration in its financial plan.

The Office of Youth Services is dedicated to creating opportunities for the youth to develop competencies that foster resiliency and enable them to achieve a successful transition to young adulthood. The objectives of the R.E.A.C.H. initiative are wholly

aligned with the objectives of the Office of Youth Services. Over the past several months, our office has been diligently collaborating with the Department of Education (DOE), the Office of Youth Services, and a working group of middle school principals and DOE administrators to develop both the pilot project and the long-term structure for R.E.A.C.H. In addition to the working group, an Advisory Board comprised of well-known community leaders committed to improving outcomes for Hawaii's youth was also established to provide insight, guidance, and support for this important initiative.

Thanks to the support from the legislature this past session, funds were appropriated and expended on a pilot project that involves five middle/intermediate schools that were awarded between \$26,000 to \$45,000 per school for a total of nearly \$200,000. The five schools are: Hana High and Elementary, Kawananako Middle, Mililani Middle, Molokai Middle, and Waiakea Intermediate. Implementation of this pilot project commences this month and we are very encouraged by the enthusiasm and support exhibited by the students, parents, teachers, and community at a rally held at Mililani Middle School earlier this month.

In conclusion, we would like to thank the legislature for their support with the pilot project and hope that we can continue to build upon what we started in 2013. The middle years are a critical time in a child's life where disengagement can start to take hold. The stakes of disengagement are high. Once students disconnect, recruitment and retention programs require stronger, more persistent outreach and more long-term participation. Juvenile crime, drug rehabilitation, counseling and other forms of intervention result in higher costs to taxpayers. The bottom line is that after-school programs keep kids on the path that leads to high school, college, career, and ultimately a better life. SB2441, SD1 addresses this critical need for Hawaii's middle school students.

The Office of the Lieutenant Governor ***strongly supports*** SB 2441, SD1 and respectfully urges the passage of this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



SB2441, SD1
RELATING TO YOUTH
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

February 20, 2014

9:00 a.m.

Room 211

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** SB2441 SD1, which would establish a Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture and Health (REACH) Program within the Office of Youth Services.

The REACH initiative proposes to fill the current void of after-school activities for public middle and intermediate students with a standardized program that will ensure that our ‘ōpio at this highly impressionable and vulnerable age receive the kind of positive support and educational stimulation to keep them motivated and engaged in academic enrichment, arts and culture, and athletics.

In recognition of the critical need to create after-school programming for our ‘ōpio, the OHA Board of Trustees on December 5, 2013 approved an allocation of \$75,000 to establish REACH programs at Moloka‘i Middle School and Hāna High and Elementary School.

Therefore, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** SB2441 SD1. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
February 20, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

by
Donald O. Straney
Chancellor, University of Hawai'i at Hilo



SB 3092 SD1 – RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee:

My name is Donald Straney, Chancellor of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. We support SB 3092 SD1 that appropriates funds for a program coordinator and technical support staff member to complete the necessary planning required for an international flight training center and associated aeronautical training programs at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo and Hawai'i Community College.

Following the approval of SB 1221 in 2013, we engaged a program coordinator to complete the necessary studies and planning for the programs' implementation.

Based on his research, he wrote two Authorization to Plan (ATP) documents to support the implementation of SB 1221. These ATP are in the final process of revision before being forwarded to the University of Hawai'i Council of Chief Academic Officers (CCAO).

This program will prepare students for this high level of academic and practical training. This proposal will help address the future needs of our island economy. UH Hilo views our partnership and collaboration with Hawai'i Community College and other community college campuses as an important component in being able to successfully provide higher education and career options to the people of our Hawai'i Island. This program will also attract foreign students and provide a positive economic impact on the State of Hawai'i and the University of Hawai'i University system

We support SB 3092 SD1 provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities in our BOR approved budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 3092 SD1. Aloha.



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

February 19, 2014

TO: The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: David Hipp
Executive Director

SUBJECT: **S.B. 2441, SD1 – RELATING TO YOUTH**

Hearing: Thursday, February 20, 2014; 9:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

PURPOSE: The purpose of S.B. 2441, SD1, Relating to Youth, is to establish the resources for enrichment, athletics, culture and health (R.E.A.C.H.) program in the Office of Youth Services (OYS) to provide a standardized framework and funding for after-schools programs in public middle and intermediate schools. The bill also:

- establishes a revolving fund to receive fees and other moneys to supplement the costs of administering and operating the program
- appropriates funds for establishing the program
- establishes and funds a position to support the program

OFFICE'S POSITION: OYS supports S.B. 2441, SD1, Relating to Youth. There are several common denominators in the lives of our at-risk youth, including but not limited to: a lack of connectedness, a sense of not belonging, and failure in school. These factors all lead to poor decision making – which is evidenced by the fact that middle school aged children represent nearly ½ of all first time juvenile arrests in our state. In FY '13, there were 1,956 arrests of children ages 12 to 14.

Providing quality after school programming for middle schoolers through the R.E.A.C.H. program will address those very issues – relationships, connections and school engagement will

positively impact school attendance and success, and is a critical prevention tool in the juvenile justice arena.

This funding is targeting the 24 middle and intermediate schools that do not receive funding or programming through the federal funds supporting the state's UPLINK program. The funding amount is based on the costs being expended in the UPLINK schools and includes a position in OYS to work with DOE and provide oversight, support and compliance with the programming goals statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

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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

February 18, 2014

To: Senator David Ige, Chair
And members of the Committee on Ways and Means

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2441 SD 1 RELATING TO YOUTH

Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports SD 2441 SD 1 Relating to Youth.

High quality after-school programs are effective in reducing the risk of a variety of undesirable behaviors among adolescents, including unplanned pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections, juvenile crime, and substance abuse. They can increase school achievement, reduce dropout rates, and provide service learning opportunities that teach young people the value of contributing back to their communities.

Hawaii has the highest percentage of households in the United States in which all adults are employed. These working families need after school programs to ensure that children are safe and engaged in productive activities.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark, MPH



TESTIMONY OF
TOM APPLE, REACH OUT HAWAII
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

SENATE BILL NO. 2441, SD1
Relating to Youth After-School Programs

February 20, 2014

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in *strong support* of Senate Bill No. 2441,SD1. I am Tom Apple, Chancellor of the University of Hawaii Manoa and also President of a non-profit organization called REACH Out Hawaii which was established to support the state's R.E.A.C.H. initiative of developing a framework for after-school programs for public middle and intermediate schools throughout the state.

Our mission at REACH Out Hawaii is to leverage resources from the private and public sector to build a sustainable funding base for high quality programs that keep our kids engaged in learning so they can succeed in school and in life. As a Chancellor at one of the state's only public institution for higher education, I have a personal stake in promoting and supporting R.E.A.C.H. as middle schools are the pipeline to higher education. We are all too familiar with the need to increase both our high school graduation and college going rates. In order to affect this, we need to place more attention at the middle school level and this bill will achieve this. The need to leverage the power of expanded learning opportunities after school has never been greater as our world has become increasingly complex. We have come to realize that instructional hours alone cannot support all of the learning needs required to adequately prepare Hawaii's youth not only for higher education, but for a career in the 21st century and a globally competitive job market.

We *strongly support* SB 2441, SD1 and respectfully urge the passage of this bill. The bill addresses a critical need for Hawaii's middle school students.

Thank you for your consideration.



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Honorable David Ige, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

RE: SB 2441 SD1 – Relating to Youth – In Support
February 20, 2014; 9:00 AM, Hawaii State Capitol Room 211

Aloha Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the committee,

I appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of SB 2441 SD1, which establishes resources for the R.E.A.C.H. program in the Office of Youth Services to provide a framework and funding for after-school programs in public middle and intermediate schools.

I am a member of the R.E.A.C.H. Advisory Board and believe there is a critical need to provide safe, supervised after-hours programs that are of interest to public middle and intermediate students. Far too many adolescents are left on their own during these hours and are prone to risky behavior. The intent of R.E.A.C.H. is to keep them engaged in athletics, academic enrichment, or arts and culture which we hope will assist in developing skills and improving their lives.

The mission of R.E.A.C.H. is to leverage resources from the private and public sector to build a sustainable funding base so we can offer quality programs. Oceanic Time Warner Cable has committed cash and in-kind donations totaling \$60,000 toward this effort.

For these reasons, I ask for your support in passing SB 2441 SD1. Thank you.

Bob Barlow
President