



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
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

SENATE BILL NO. 2441, SD2
Relating to Youth After-School Programs

March 11, 2014

Chair Carroll, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. We **support** Senate Bill No.2441, SD2. We also ask for the committee's support in ensuring that funding in the amount of \$3.1 million is appropriated for the R.E.A.C.H. program.

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, SD2 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 throughout the state. 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, Kawananakoa 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 in February.

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, SD2 addresses this critical need for Hawaii's middle school students.

The Office of the Lieutenant Governor **supports** SB 2441, SD2 and respectfully urges the passage of this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 03/11/2014

Committee: House Human Services

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 2441, SD2(sscr2745) RELATING TO YOUTH.

Purpose of Bill: Establishes the resources for enrichment, athletics, culture, and health program in the office of youth services to provide a standardized framework and funding for after-school programs in public middle and intermediate schools. 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 one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) position to support the program and appropriates funds for that position. Effective 07/01/2050. (SD2)

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Education) supports SB 2441 SD2 to establish the R.E.A.C.H. program. The middle school years are a critical time in a child's life. Middle and intermediate after-school programs will keep students engaged and allow them to explore activities that will serve to promote a positive lifestyle and achieve a successful transition to young adulthood.



STATE OF HAWAII
BOARD OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

House Committee on Human Services

Tuesday, March 11, 2014
10:00 a.m.
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 329

Testimony of Keith Amemiya

Senate Bill 2441 SD2 Relating to Youth After-School Programs – R.E.A.C.H

Dear Chair Carroll, Vice Chair Kobayashi and members of the committee:

I ***strongly support*** Senate Bill 2441 SD2 which establishes the R.E.A.C.H. program in the Office of Youth Services and provides much needed funding for after-school programs in our public middle and intermediate schools.

I currently serve as a member of the R.E.A.C.H. Advisory Board and have been an advocate for education and youth sports programs for many years now. R.E.A.C.H. is an initiative aimed at keeping Hawaii's youth engaged and excited about learning during the after school hours so they can stay on the right path towards high school graduation. This bill is very important because adolescents in this age group are especially vulnerable to peer pressure. High quality after-school programs are effective in reducing a variety of undesirable behaviors including the use of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol that can lead to substance abuse, teen pregnancy, sexually transmitted disease, and juvenile crime. Working parents need after school programs to ensure that their children are safe and engaged in positive, productive, activities.

As the former Executive Director of Hawaii High School Athletics Association, I know the value that after school programs have for young adolescents first hand. Through R.E.A.C.H., these students have the opportunity to be engaged in athletics, academic enrichment, or arts and culture – programs and activities outside of instructional hours which are important for their physical, social and emotional development and well-being. These programs will foster character-building, responsibility, confidence and a sense of community in Hawaii's youth.

This bill addresses a critical need for Hawaii's middle school students. I ***strongly support*** it and respectfully urge the passage of this bill.

Thank you for your consideration.



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

March 10, 2014

TO: The Honorable Mele Carroll, Chair
House Committee on Human Services

FROM: David Hipp, Executive Director

SUBJECT: S.B. 2441, SD2 – RELATING TO YOUTH

Hearing: Tuesday, March 11, 2014, 10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 329

PURPOSE: The purpose of S.B. 2441, SD2, 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, SD2, 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.

The Honorable Mele Carroll
March 10, 2014
Page 2

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.



SB2441 SD2
RELATING TO YOUTH
House Committee on Human Services

March 11, 2014

10:00 a.m.

Room 329

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** SB2441 SD2, 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 SD2. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

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

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 Mo'hala Behavioral Health
KEY (Kualoa-Heeiea 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 8, 2014

To: Representative Mele Carroll, Chair
And members of the Committee on Human Services

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

200 Akamainui Street
Mililani, Hawaii 96789-3999
Tel: 808-625-2100
Fax: 808-625-5888



Honorable Mele Carroll, Chair
Honorable Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
House Committee on Human Services

RE: SB 2441 SD2 – Relating to Youth – In Support; Request Amendments
March 11, 2014; 10:00 AM, Hawaii State Capitol Room 329

Aloha Chair Carroll, Vice Chair Kobayashi and members of the committee,

I appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of SB 2441 SD2, 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.

I ask for your support in passing SB 2441 SD2 with amendments to reinstate the \$3,100,000 appropriation and an effective date of July 1, 2014. Thank you for your consideration.

Bob Barlow
President

841 Bishop St., Suite 301
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



Telephone: 808 926-1530
Contact@HEECoalition.org

House Committee on Human Services
Representative Mele Carroll, Chair
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

March 11, 2014

Dear Chair Carroll, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and Committee Members:

This testimony is submitted in support for SB2441 SD2, establishing a statewide afterschool program, R.E.A.C.H, within the Office of Youth Services, and the financial appropriations to support the program.

The Hui for Excellence in Education (HE'E) is a diverse coalition of over 40 parent and community organizations dedicated to improving student achievement by increasing family and community engagement and partnerships in our schools. Our member list is attached.

One issue that is of high priority to Coalition members is school safety, including bullying, addressing students at-risk, and looking for ways to keep children in school. Especially in the middle and intermediate schools years, a young teen's focus can wander if they are not engaged in structured activities. Afterschool programs can provide this structure as well as be a safe place where teens can build confidence. Studies show that afterschool programs can contribute to higher grades and test scores, better attendance records, lower drop out rates and an increase in positive attitudes and behaviors.¹ After school programs can also have benefits to families including better connection between parents, children and communities, and improved relationships between parents and children.²

The Coalition supports a statewide afterschool network targeting middle and intermediate schools. We agree that the Office of Youth Services is the appropriate entity to administer the program. We also would like to see collaboration with the Department of Education, as many afterschool programs take place on public school sites. In addition, we would like to see the afterschool programs and school programs coordinated if possible for positive outcomes for students.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and for your consideration. Our support of this bill represents a 75% consensus or more of our membership.

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura
HE'E Coalition Director

¹ Decker, L. E., et al. (2000). *Engaging families & communities, pathways to educational success*. Boca Raton, FL: National Community Educational Association, Florida Atlantic University.

² Harris, E. & Wimer, C. (2004, April). *Engaging with families in out-of-school time learning, No. 4*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard Family Research Project.

HE'E Member List

Academy 21
After-School All-Stars Hawaii
Alliance for Place Based Learning
*Castle Complex Community Council
Center for Civic Education
Coalition for Children with Special Needs
*DOE Windward District
*Faith Action for Community Equity
Fresh Leadership LLC
Girl Scouts Hawaii
*Good Beginnings Alliance
Harold K.L. Castle Foundation
*Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law and
Economic Justice
Hawai'i Athletic League of Scholars
*Hawai'i Charter School Network
*Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity
Coalition
*Hawaii State PTSA
Hawai'i State Student Council
Hawai'i State Teachers Association
Hawai'i P-20
Hawai'i 3Rs
Head Start Collaboration Office
It's All About Kids
*INPEACE
Joint Venture Education Forum
Junior Achievement of Hawaii
Kamehameha Schools
Kanu Hawai'i
Keiki to Career
Kupu A'e
*Leaders for the Next Generation
Learning First
McREL's Pacific Center for Changing the
Odds
Our Public School
*Pacific Resources for Education and
Learning
*Parents and Children Together
*Parents for Public Schools Hawai'i
Punahou School PUEO Program
Teach for America
The Learning Coalition
US PACOM
University of Hawai'i College of Education
YMCA of Honolulu
*Voting Member



National Association of Social Workers Hawai'i Chapter

March 9, 2014

To: Representative Mele Carroll, Chair - Committee on Human Services
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee on Human Services

From: National Association of Social Workers, Hawaii Chapter
Marty A. Oliphant, Executive Director

Re: **SB 2441**, Relating to Youth, **Strong Support**

Date: Tuesday, March 10, 2014 Time: 10:00 a.m. Location: State Capitol, Room 329

Representative Mele Carroll, Chair, Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair, and Members of the House Committee on Human Services, my name is Marty Oliphant and I am the Executive Director of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW), Hawaii Chapter. NASW is in **STRONG SUPPORT of SB 2441** relating to Youth

NASW supports the intent of including an after-school program for middle and intermediate schools. The initiative as outline in SB 2441 will address an increasing need to have quality programs for youth to actively engage during the hours immediately following regular school hours. This program will allow for youth in our community to have access to an after-school program that promotes healthy development and positive interactions with their peers and adult staff members.

NASW strongly supports SB 2441 . We appreciate your sincere consideration of the restoration of the Hawaii Child Welfare Education Collaboration. Please pass this bill. Thank you.



TESTIMONY OF
TOM APPLE, REACH OUT HAWAII
TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

SENATE BILL NO. 2441, SD2
Relating to Youth After-School Programs

March 11, 2014

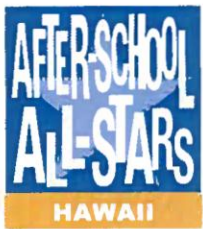
Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill No. 2441, SD2 which establishes the REACH program under the state Office of Youth Services. I am Tom Apple, Chancellor of the University of Hawaii Manoa and also President of a non-profit organization called REACH Out Hawaii which was created 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 support SB 2441, SD2 and respectfully urge the passage of this bill with the original effective date. This bill addresses a critical need for Hawaii's middle school students.

Thank you for your consideration.





TESTIMONY OF
Dawn M. Dunbar
President & CEO, After-School All-Stars Hawaii

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
AND THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
March 11, 2014

SENATE BILL NO. 2441
Relating to Youth After-School Programs – R.E.A.C.H.

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

I **support** Senate Bill No. (SB) 2441 which establishes the R.E.A.C.H. program in the Office of Youth Services and provides much needed funding for after-school programs in our public middle and intermediate schools.

As a provider of structured after-school programs, specifically targeting our sixth, seventh and eighth graders in our public schools, I get to see every day, the impact of our programs. We serve some of the most disadvantaged communities, and so it is truly an opportunity to provide classes such as Cooking, Hip Hop Dance, Hawaiiana, Slam Poetry, Gardening, Football, Soccer, Volleyball, Tennis, etc. to kids who would otherwise be sitting at home, getting into trouble, and influenced by the peer pressures of drugs, sex and alcohol. It is fulfilling to see our participants genuinely engaging in fun activities. That's why this bill is important to our students, working families, schools, and the community as a whole. After-school programs for this age group is critical – because our participants want to have a safe place to go, with the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities, not to mention being surrounded by positive role models.

We've found that there aren't many alternatives for Hawaii's youth, when it comes to after-school programming in the middle schools. It pains me when a single working mother calls to ask if we have programs running at Moanalua Middle School because her daughter is transitioning from elementary to sixth grade, and does not know what to do with her at 2:15 p.m. when the bell rings. She worried about what her daughter would do for three or so hours until she got home, let alone where she would go since she couldn't walk home.

Quality after-school programs have shown to set students on the right path. In our five years here in Hawaii, we have seen tremendous growth in our participants, both academically and socially. The after-school hours provide a uniquely creative and entrepreneurial time in the field of public education. We are able to leverage community resources; provide engaging learning opportunities; address the major issues kids face today, and provide practical solutions for working families in under resourced communities. Our vision is for all All-Star students to achieve what we hope for our own children: to be safe and healthy, to graduate high school and go on to college, to find careers they love and then give back to their communities. If we can capture our youth at this age, there is so much opportunity to set them up for future success.

I ***strongly support*** SB 2441 and respectfully ask the committee to pass this bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dawn M. Dunbar', with a stylized, cursive script.

Dawn M. Dunbar
President & CEO, After-School All-Stars Hawaii

kobayashi1-Joni

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 08, 2014 12:30 AM
To: HUS testimony
Cc: Awai76@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2441 on Mar 11, 2014 10:00AM

SB2441

Submitted on: 3/8/2014

Testimony for HUS on Mar 11, 2014 10:00AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ellen Awai	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support SB2441 SD2, companion bill HB1756 HD1 for the funding of the REACH program in the Office of Youth Services. As a parent, a behavioral health advocate, and a student from criminal justice administration, I strongly support this bill. Our youth need to have guidance after school, as well as during school, when their parents may not be available for them. Thank you!

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

3/8/14

Hi, my name is Sean Cristobal and I am a student studying Criminal Justice at Chaminade University. I believe that by supporting SB2441, it will be beneficial not only to the youth of our community, but also to everyone else. By providing the funding for things such as athletics and after school programs, it will prevent youth from partaking in any mischievous or criminal behavior. It has been proven that children who spend time on sports or after school programs are much less likely to commit crimes being that they won't have time to do it, and that they will be too tired as well. After all, idle hands are the devil's workshop.

These afterschool programs are also great not only for giving children something to do, but they are also great place to do homework, improve socializing skills, become active, and the list goes on. I use to be in afterschool programs in elementary (A Plus) and middle school (Hale Kipa and the YMCA), and we would be told to do our homework for a certain period of time, but after that we would be allowed to play sports and exercise. I learned later that this balance of mental and physical work was a great addition to my lifestyle for me.

As you can see, afterschool programs are a tremendous help to our youth. My first hand experience with it showed me that after school programs can be a substantial substitute to just sitting at home and watching television afterschool, but without any funds, how can our youth take a part in it? It will pay off in the future when you won't have to be paying for the care of a delinquent in a detention center because he or she got in trouble because there was just nothing else to do after school. Therefore, I urge the committees to support SB2441. Thank you.



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

LATE

March 10, 2014

TO: The Honorable Mele Carroll, Chair
House Committee on Human Services

FROM: David Hipp, Executive Director

SUBJECT: **S.B. 2441, SD2 – RELATING TO YOUTH**
Addendum to Testimony

Hearing: Tuesday, March 11, 2014, 10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 329

PURPOSE: The purpose of S.B. 2441, SD2, 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.

OFFICE'S POSITION: OYS supports S.B. 2441, SD2, Relating to Youth.

Regretfully, I did not include the edits to S.B. 2441, SD2, Relating to Youth that this office is recommending; therefore, this addendum to my earlier testimony is being submitted.

In its testimony to the House Committee on Finance dated February 21, 2014, the Department of the Attorney General suggested language for enabling the expenditures of moneys. The suggested language from the AG may be found on page 7, lines 1 through 8, under §352D-C, subsection (c), numbers (1) – (5).

The following are the recommended edits for numbers (1), (3) and (5):

- (1) Hire personnel to ~~oversee the implementation~~ implement, operate and oversee of the resources for enrichment, athletics, culture, and health program;
- (2) Promote after-school program activities;
- (3) Conduct after-school ~~education and demonstration projects~~ enrichment activities related to REACH;

The Honorable Mele Carroll
March 10, 2014
Page 2

- (4) Contract for services for after-school programs; and
- (5) Fund associated ~~office~~ expenses for after-school programs.

In an email dated March 10, 2014, Deputy Attorney General Blair Goto wrote that he had no objections to the edits that have been suggested.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide this testimony.

LATE

WASHINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL



TESTIMONY OF
Michael K. Harano
Principal, Washington Middle School
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

SENATE BILL NO. 2441, SD2
Relating to Youth After-School Programs

March 11, 2014

Chair Carroll, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the House Committee on Human Services, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **strong support** of Senate Bill No. 2441, SD2. My name is Michael Harano and I am the Principal at Washington Middle School.

R.E.A.C.H. is an initiative aimed at keeping Hawaii's youth engaged and excited about learning during the after school hours so they can stay on the right path towards high school graduation. As a middle school principal, I feel that this bill is so important because it is in the middle years that we begin to lose our students. The after school hours are especially dangerous times for our adventurous middle schoolers who without developmentally appropriate programs and adult supervision naturally gravitate towards their peers. In many instances this leads towards experimentation with tobacco, alcohol and drugs, promiscuity or criminal activity.

At Washington Middle School, we have benefitted from receiving 21st Century Community Learning Center grant funding that has increased our after school participation rate by over 150 students. We have seen amongst these participants a decrease in absenteeism and behavior referrals and an increase in grades and test scores. But more important than the numbers is the fact that we are able to see our students grow and mature into upstanding youth who demonstrate the positive character traits that will help them contribute to our community and state. The academic school day alone is not enough. Our students need a quality after school program to balance and provide for their social and emotional growth. I am concerned about the decline I will see when the 21st Century grant funding sunsets at the end of this school year.

Studies show that students who attend quality after school programs have improved attendance and behavior in class, lower course failures and higher graduation rates. After school and summer programs offer expanded learning opportunities and the potential to positively affect the lives of the youth in this state.

This bill addresses a critical need for Hawaii's middle school students. I **strongly support** it and respectfully urge the passage of this bill.

Thank you for your consideration,

Michael K. Harano, Principal



HANA HIGH AND ELEMENTARY
P.O. BOX 128
HANA, HAWAII 96713
808-248-4836



March 10, 2014

The Honorable, Rep. Mele Carroll, Chair
The Honorable, Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Honorable Members, House Human Services Committee

Testimony in Support – SB2441, SD2; March 11 Hearing

Aloha Chair Carroll, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the committee. My name is Richard Young and I am the Vice Principal at Hāna High and Elementary School. I strongly support this measure. Senate Bill 2442, SD 2 which seeks to establish the R.E.A.C.H program in the Office of Youth Services to provide a standardized framework for after-school programs in public middle and intermediate schools throughout the state. I am hopeful that the passage will be to have the program implemented in year 2014 and not in July 2050.

Hāna School was fortunate to be a pilot project for R.E.A.C.H. initiated during the second semester this year thanks to the support from OHA and the Lieutenant Governor's Office. I strongly support SB 2442 because the R.E.A.C.H. Program has assisted our school in providing supplemental funding to increase tutors for our afterschool tutoring program as well as provide coaches, numbered t-shirts, equipment and transportation for athletic based programs to our Hana Middle School Students.

The middle years are a critical time in a child's life. Expanded learning opportunities are critically needed during the after-school hours. Out-of-instruction time programs keep kids on the right path that leads to high school graduation. SB 2442 addresses this critical need for such programs.

I **strongly support** SB 2442 and respectfully urge the passage of this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

LATE

TESTIMONY OF
Elyne E. Chung, Principal
Mililani Middle School

TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
AND THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

SENATE BILL NO. 2441 (SD2)
Relating to Youth After-School Programs – R.E.A.C.H.

March 11, 2014 Hearing

Dear Chair Chun Oakland, Chair Tokuda and members of the committee:

I **support** Senate Bill No. (SB) 2441 (SD2) which establishes the R.E.A.C.H. program in the Office of Youth Services and provides much needed funding for after-school programs in our public middle and intermediate schools.

I am the Principal at Mililani Middle School and this bill is important to me because as a pilot school for the R.E.A.C.H. project, we are currently initiating our program during the fourth quarter of this school year, thanks to the support from the legislature and the Lieutenant Governor's Office. We at Mililani Middle School strongly support (SB) 2441 because we believe extracurricular after school activities and programs not only enhance student achievement in terms of attendance, behavior, academics and leadership, but also keeps our pre-teen and teenaged students engaged in healthy and productive activities afterschool and on weekends.

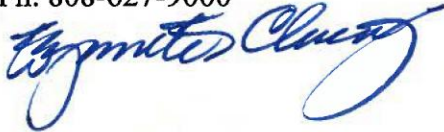
Whether it be athletics, the arts, sciences or technology, middle school students need to be involved in programs that help to ignite their passion during these critical years of self-discovery. Extracurricular after school programs outside of the formal classroom environment provide the opportunities for structured social interactions amongst peers and significant adults who facilitate the development of meaningful relationships. The middle school years are a time when adolescents need multiple outlets to engage their time and energy, and extracurricular after school activities help to foster critical skills needed for the development of personal goals and aspirations.

At Mililani Middle School, there are 28 after school clubs/groups with a current enrollment of 612 students and 50 faculty and staff members who support the activities and engage with students. Meeting at least once a week provides our students with additional time with significant adults on campus. As middle school years are a critical time in a child's life, expanded learning opportunities are needed during the after-school hours. After school extracurricular programs keep adolescents on the right path that leads to high school graduation. (SB) 2441 (SD2) addresses this critical need for such programs.

This bill addresses a critical need for Hawaii's middle school students. I ***strongly support*** it and respectfully urge the passage of this bill.

Thank you for your consideration.
Sincerely,

Elynne E. Chung, Principal
Mililani Middle School
95-1140 Lehiwa Drive
Mililani, Hawaii 96789
Ph: 808-627-9000



NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

LINDSAY BALL
COMPLEX AREA SUPERINTENDENT

GARY DAVIDSON
PRINCIPAL

Moloka'i Middle School

P O Box 443
2175 Lihipali Avenue
Hoolehua, HI 96729
Phone: 567-6940 Fax: 567-6939



TESTIMONY OF
Gary Davidson, Principal
Molokai Middle School

SENATE BILL NO. 2441, SD2
Relating to Youth After-School Programs—R.E.A.C.H.

March 11, 2014

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

I **strongly support** Senate Bill No. (SB) 2441, SD2, which establishes the R.E.A.C.H. program in the Office of Youth Services and provides much needed funding for after-school programs in public middle and intermediate schools throughout the state.

I am the principal at Molokai Middle School and this bill is important to me because small, rural, and isolated schools such as Molokai Middle struggle to provide opportunities and programs other, more affluent and urban schools take for granted. Molokai leads the state in every negative statistic, including but not limited to the highest rates of unemployment, substance abuse, domestic violence, diabetes, and poverty. Our students must overcome many barriers just to show up to school every day, and then we ask them to perform at high academic levels, in spite of those challenges. We cast many nets to catch them before they fall, and R.E.A.C.H. funding would ensure our nets are finer, catch more students, and provide safety for students that otherwise might fail to reach their potential. Through extraordinary effort, Molokai Middle School students achieve academic success on par with students at larger, better resourced schools in Hawaii and on the mainland. However, a robust after-school program such as that possible through the R.E.A.C.H. model would provide additional support in areas such as attendance, behavior, and academic interventions for the education, health, and well-being of our students. Often, that small additional support makes all the difference in a child's life.

SB 2441 addresses the critical need for such programs. We **strongly support** it and respectfully urge the passage of this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Gary Davidson, Principal
Molokai Middle School
One Canoe, Many Paddles



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
WAIAKEA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
200 WEST PUAINAKO STREET
HILO, HAWAII 96720-3199
PHONE: (808) 981-7231 FAX: (808) 981-7237

LATE

TESTIMONY OF
Mason Morimoto , Student
Waiakea Intermediate School
TO THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

SENATE BILL NO. 2441, SD2
Relating to Youth After-School Programs – R.E.A.C.H.

March 10, 2014

Dear Chair Carroll and members of the committee:

My name is Mason Morimoto and I go to Waiakea Intermediate School. I am in the eighth grade and attend the REACH afterschool program.

The REACH program makes me feel good about myself. One of the ways that the program has improved my life is by making me a better student. I now have no missing assignments because my tutors are always checking and helping me with my homework. When I complete my assignments, I feel good about it.

When I need any help, my tutors encourage me and tell me that they are proud of me. My tutors praise my good behavior and it makes me want to continue to do good things.

Another thing that being part of the REACH program has helped me with is learning to control my temper. My tutors are always helping me and checking in with me to see if I am doing okay. They often remind me to breathe and calm down when I become angry.

The REACH staff is great because they are caring, honest, and encouraging; they make me feel wanted.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mason Morimoto

Mason Morimoto
Student
Waiakea Intermediate School



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
WAIAKEA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
200 WEST PUAINAKO STREET
HILO, HAWAII 96720-3199
PHONE: (808) 981-7231 FAX: (808) 981-7237

TESTIMONY OF
Micah Chinen, Student
Waiakea Intermediate School
TO THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE OF HUMAN SERVICES

SENATE BILL NO. 2441, SD2
Relating to Youth After-School Programs – R.E.A.C.H.

March 10, 2014

Dear Chair Carroll and members of the committee:

Hi, my name is Micah Chinen. I am an eighth grader at Waiakea Intermediate School and participate in the REACH afterschool program. This program has had a big impact on me, changing me from a little, shy guy to a confident young man. For me, REACH is something I am very thankful for because of what it has done for me.

Being part of an afterschool program has honestly changed me and helped me. It has helped me with my homework, which I had a hard time with. If it were not for the help of my tutors, I would have probably failed my GT math class. The program has also helped me socialize with new people and helped me make great new friends that I didn't know before.

The program staff supports and encourages their students. They have helped me build my self-esteem. They never give up on us, and they want all of their students to succeed. The staff often gives of their own time off just to help me with my studies when they have other work to do. This really means a lot to me.

The program also teaches us about values to help build our character and confidence. These classes have changed who I am. It helps me feel more confident about myself.

In conclusion, REACH is very beneficial to me. I think many people should join afterschool programs because it can make a big impact on their lives. Being part of an afterschool program is one of the best things that have ever happened to me.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Micah Chinen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Micah Chinen
Student
Waiakea Intermediate School



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
WAIAKEA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
200 WEST PUAINAKO STREET
HILO, HAWAII 96720-3199
PHONE: (808) 981-7231 FAX: (808) 981-7237

TESTIMONY OF
Maria dePillis-Shintaku, Student
Waiakea Intermediate School
TO THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

SENATE BILL NO. 2441, SD2
Relating to Youth After-School Programs – R.E.A.C.H.

March 10, 2014

Dear Chair Carroll and members of the committee:

There was once a girl who attended Waiakea Intermediate School. She was shy, quiet, and not confident in herself at all. She rarely raised her hand in class, and when she did, her answers were barely whispers. She struggled with her homework sometimes, but she was too scared to ask for help. Then that girl entered an after-school program. It was one of the best things that ever happened to her. She felt comfortable, she made new friends, she felt so much more confident in herself, and she wasn't afraid to ask for help when she needed it. That girl was me, Maria dePillis-Shintaku.

In REACH, I've needed help many times and for multiple different things. The thing that I've needed help the most with is my math. Math has never been my best subject, and certainly not my favorite. Since I've been working my way through Algebra, it's been even more difficult as of late. However, the tutors have been such an enormous help to me, I can't really even put it into words. They will always help me, sit with me, and try to walk me through it. My tutors make me feel as if they *want* to help me, they *want* to help me succeed. They have been willing to give up their time in order to help me through my studies. Without this program, it is possible that I would have failed math. When I work with my tutors, I could feel myself working because I *wanted* to, because I *wanted* to improve, not because I was required.

The after school program has taught me so many things that will end up being useful to me later in life. The program has especially helped me with my procrastination. I used to be a big procrastinator – I would wait until the last two days to do a project that I had a month to do, but in our program, they have none of that. They check your planner daily, and if you don't write

down your homework, *they will know*. Our tutors also tell their students that it does not matter if it's due tomorrow or next week or in a month – we should start working on it as early as possible. This helped me so much because now, I'm not waiting until the last minute. My projects are now not rushed or half-hearted or sloppy; they are well done and I put my full effort into my work.

Tutors also teach us values; helping to build our character, confidence, and competence. In these lessons, I have learned so much, especially when dealing with my self-confidence. They have taught me that I shouldn't be ashamed of myself, that I can do what I put my mind to. It has taught me that I can stand up and be myself.

One of the clubs that I attend in our program is Girls' Club. In this club, they tackle the tough topics like relationships and sex. Another tough subject that they tackle is body image. Body image has always been a problem for me. I have constantly felt like I was overweight or pudgy, unfit or ugly. I would often cry, and I hated the way I looked in a mirror. I'd dress up pretty to feel better, but it never really helped. But being part of the Girls' Club did. In Girls' Club everything was open and I learned so much. For the first time, when someone told me "You're beautiful the way you are," I believed it.

This program has helped me so much. I'm so thankful I entered this program and when I leave, I know that I will miss it so much. As each day in the eighth grade ticks on, and as I smile every time I see my tutors and friends, there's always one thought in the back of my head – *I don't want to go*. I don't want to leave this program, with its fun clubs, friends I've made, or my amazing, caring tutors. But I know that I'll have to move on without them, and I know I'll survive because of everything I've learned in the REACH program and because of experiences I want to relive over and over again. I hope other kids that come into this program will have as good an experience as I have had.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maria dePillis-Shintaku".

Maria dePillis-Shintaku
Student
Waiakea Intermediate School



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
WAIAKEA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
200 WEST PUAINAKO STREET
HILO, HAWAII 96720-3199
PHONE: (808) 981-7231 FAX: (808) 981-7237

TESTIMONY OF
Kimberly Santiago, Student
Waiakea Intermediate School
TO THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

SENATE BILL NO. 2441, SD2
Relating to Youth After-School Programs – R.E.A.C.H.

March 10, 2014

Dear Chair Carroll and members of the committee:

Hi, my name is Kimberly Santiago. I am in eighth grade, and I go to Waiakea Intermediate School.

After school I go to a program called REACH. My afterschool program to me is one of the best things I ever signed up for. At the program I'm more focused and I get most or all of my homework done. I remember being at home and it took me one hour to do one math problem. In the afterschool program it took me 45 minutes to complete all of my homework.

Also, in the program I don't feel like a nobody. Everybody in the program is kind, nice, and cares for me. They would make sure that I'm happy and they help me with my problems, even the ones that don't have to do with school.

Before joining the after school program, I was shy, and I didn't like to do my homework. Now, I do my homework, like how I would breathe. It would be simple and not hard, and I wouldn't procrastinate as much as I would back in sixth grade.

Also, in school, I didn't really have faith in myself and was not proud to be who I was, and the after school program helped me to realize that, I am who I am. I have potential waiting to be discovered, and that I can be anything if I set my mind to it. The staff would help me reach my goals. They also encouraged me to make friends, because at first I wouldn't talk to anyone. And if there was a wish, I wish that I could stay in this program with all of my friends and be happy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kimberly Santiago". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Kimberly Santiago
Student
Waiakea Intermediate School

LATE



TESTIMONY OF
LESLIE WILKINS
VICE PRESIDENT, MAUI ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

SENATE BILL NO. 2441, SD2
Relating to Youth After-School Programs – R.E.A.C.H.

March 10, 2014

Dear Chair Carroll, Vice Chair Kobayashi and members of the committee:

We would like to offer this testimony in **strong support of SB 2441,SD2**, which establishes the R.E.A.C.H. program in the Office of Youth Services to and provides much needed 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 actively support the efforts to create a comprehensive statewide approach to after school programs at the middle school level. I believe there is a critical need to provide safe, supervised after-hours programs. There are nearly 70,000 adolescents left on their own during the hours after school gets out, making them vulnerable to drug and tobacco use, alcohol, sex, crime and other risky behavior. Through R.E.A.C.H., these students have the opportunity to be engaged in athletics, academic enrichment, or arts and culture – programs and activities aimed at developing responsibility, confidence and a sense of community in Hawaii's youth.

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 that quality programs can be offered. Funding is a key component to state wide programs at the middle school level and this bill will serve to fulfill this critical need. The need to leverage the power of expanded learning opportunities after school has never been greater as the world has become increasingly complex. After school programs provide learning opportunities that help our youth better prepare for high school and a successful life.

We **strongly support** SB 2441, SD2 and respectfully urge the passage of this bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Leslie Wilkins'.

Leslie Wilkins
Vice President
Maui Economic Development Board

development board
STRENGTHEN EDUCATE
INSPIRE SUSTAIN
DIVERSIFY
Building Pathways

COMMITTEES ON HUMAN SERVICES

Honorable Mele Carroll, Chairperson
Honorable Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chairperson



Tuesday March 11, 2014
10:00 A.M.
Room 329

STRONG SUPPORT SB 2441, SD2 – RELATING TO YOUTH

Please pass this bill.

We need more resources for public middle and intermediate students to participate in athletics, cultural and other meaningful enrichment activities.

The research is clear, with more resources put into these activities for youth in this age group, which face unique challenges, we can help ensure they develop into healthy and successful law abiding citizens.

Instead of putting resources into disciplinary programs, even restorative justice programs, which I strongly support, we should *FIRST* help youth develop normally and prevent them from needing discipline.

Youth learn how to cooperate and settle conflicts naturally by engaging in the kinds of activities that this bill would support. We need to spend more money on activities for youth rather than disciplinary programs, especially for intermediate and secondary age youth.

The Office of Youth Services is well administered and can ensure that meaningful activities are provided for these youth. Please see: *Afterschool Innovations in Brief: Focusing on Middle School Age Youth* <http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/documents/MetLifeCompendium.pdf> on the importance of providing *meaningful* activities for youth.

My work designing and studying disciplinary programs and systems including the criminal justice system and my former experience representing youth for law violations and status offenses in family court, supports my belief that providing opportunities like this bill would prevent a lot of other costly problems. I am also a former deputy attorney general who represented the state in many cases concerning child welfare and the prison system. Since 1994 I have been applying a public health and restorative approach for working with many marginalized populations and training others in this area.

Please see my website www.lorennwalker.com for a description of my background and experience in education, social welfare, family court and the corrections systems.

Thank you for your time and efforts in public service.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
WAIAKEA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
200 WEST PUAINAKO STREET
HILO, HAWAII 96720-3199
PHONE: (808) 981-7231 FAX: (808) 981-7237

Testimony of
Lisa Souza, Waiakea Intermediate School Principal
to the
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

SENATE BILL NO. 2441, SD2
Relating to Youth After-School Programs -REACH

March 10, 2014

Dear Chair Carroll and members of the Committee:

I **support** Senate Bill No. (SB) 2441 which establishes the R.E.A.C.H. program in the Office of Youth Services and provides much needed funding for after-school programs in our public intermediate schools.

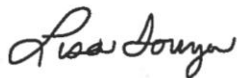
I am the Principal at Waiakea Intermediate School, which is fortunate to have one of the five REACH pilot programs in the state. The middle school years can be a very difficult time for children, and students can benefit greatly from guidance in the hours after school. Our REACH program accepts all students who apply. We currently have more than 20% of our student body enrolled in the program and continue to receive applications on a weekly basis. Students are able to see that there are many alternatives to at-risk behavior after school. They are able to get daily homework help and receive instruction in values once a week. In addition, our students are able to experience the following clubs after school: baking, cooking, crafts, fitness, gardening, recycling, science, girls' sex education, boys' sex education, Hawaiian language and culture, Japanese language and culture, performing arts, movie making, school newspaper, life skills, and astronomy.

Our feeder elementary schools have A+ programs to occupy students after school. The high school has numerous and varied after school clubs, athletics and other activities, and students are old enough to hold after school jobs. The intermediate school students have no general after school program, and they need a structured program like REACH. Currently, we receive partial funding from the UPLINK program, but these funds alone are not adequate to support our after school program. Also, the UPLINK funding is available on a year-to-year basis, and, as every school year draws to a close, we do not have the security of knowing that it will be funded for the next school year. We need the certainty of REACH funding to keep and expand this valuable program for our intermediate school children.

This bill addresses a critical need for Hawaii's intermediate school students. I ***strongly support*** it and respectfully urge the passage of this bill.

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa Souza".

Lisa Souza
Principal, Waiakea Intermediate School