

HB 1346

Measure Title: RELATING TO YOUTH.

Report Title: Office of Youth Services; Department of Human Services;
Appropriation (\$)

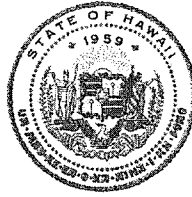
Description: Establishes a program within the office of youth services for positive youth development through after school and school break programs. (HB1346 HD1)

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: HMS, WAM

Introducer(s): RHOADS, CACHOLA, MIZUNO



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

March 14, 2016

TO: The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
House Committee on Finance

FROM: Merton Chinen, Executive Director

SUBJECT: **HB 1346 HD1 – Relating to Youth**

Hearing: Tuesday, March 15, 2016, 1:15 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 016

OFFICE'S POSITION: The Office of Youth Services (OYS) supports the measure provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget. OYS currently procures programs and services statewide that incorporates a positive youth development framework for youth and their families to develop competencies, increase protective factors, and strengthen relationships and resiliency. OYS partners with both government and private community-based agencies to ensure a coordinated continuum of services for 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 contribute 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. Providing quality after school and school break programming for middle and high school students will address those very issues, and is a critical prevention tool in the juvenile justice arena.

PURPOSE: The purpose of HB 1346 HD1 is to require the Office of Youth Services to coordinate a positive youth development program to provide after school and school break programs for middle and high school students focused on prevention and intervention and appropriate funds for that purpose.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

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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 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 11, 2016

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

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1346 HD1 RELATING TO YOUTH

Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports HB 1346 HD1 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
Executive Director

Bryson Idica
E- Mail: bidica@hawaii.edu

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services

RE: Support of HB 1346, HD1: RELATING TO YOUTH.

DATE: Tuesday, March 15, 2016

TIME: 1:15 PM

PLACE: Conference Room 016

Chair Oakland, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the Committee:

My name is Bryson Idica. I am currently a student at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa pursuing a Bachelor's degree at the Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work. Today I am submitting an independent testimony in support of HB 1346 HD1 in regards to establishing a program within the office of youth services for positive youth development through after school and school break programs

HB 1346 HD1 is a crucial bill which provides our youth a safe, structured and educational environment where they could engage and learn with fellow young adults. As a former recipient of after school and school break programs, I was well aware of the dangers presented outside of school and I was very fortunate to be apart of such programs. Through these programs, I was able to pursue my personal interests in sports and arts guided by the mentorship of the program's staff. It allowed me the opportunity to learn valuable life lessons and I looked forward to attending such programs daily. These programs provided me with a positive environment where I was able to build social and productive skills while enjoying the continuity of being with my peers.

Though according to a March 2015 report done by the Afterschool Alliance, roughly 17 percent of Hawaii's youth are to care for themselves after school. This leaves our youth in a vulnerable position to engage in risky behaviors which could lead to unfortunate outcomes. This important investment in our youth's future not only provides an opportunity to continue their learning outside of school but it also gives our youth the encouragement from the community to succeed within their academics and personal development.

I humbly ask for your support to consider the passage of HB 1346 HD1 to grant our youth and working families a future full of bright and secure opportunities. With the potential passage of HB 1346 HD1, our youth will be able to take part in constructive and engaging opportunities which prepares them to become courageous and responsible leaders for Hawaii's future. Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony.

Sincerely,
Bryson Idica

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Cc: dylanarm@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1346 on Mar 15, 2016 13:15PM*
Date: Monday, March 14, 2016 12:38:32 PM

HB1346

Submitted on: 3/14/2016

Testimony for HMS on Mar 15, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dylan Armstrong	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.

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TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair Senate Committee on Human Services
Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair Senate Committee on Human Services

FROM: Kevin Aganos, Student at The University of Hawaii at Manoa

SUBJECT: HB 1346, HD1 – RELATING TO YOUTH

The purpose of HB 1346 requires the office of youth services to create and coordinate a program for the youth that aims to provide positive impacts towards middle schoolers and high school students by providing support and enhancing after-school programs and school break program.

I am writing my testimony in support of HB 1346 because by establishing a positive youth development program, it benefits and provides students with preventive measures while also focusing on intervention measures. Youth development programs will provide a positive and safe environment where youth will be able to get school work done, guided by strong peers and mentors that will help direct youth in the right direction, and keeps youth out of trouble after school. After-school programs and school break programs are beneficial in helping aid the youth by increasing learning opportunities and development for the youth.

The National Collaboration for Youth states that youth and human services in America such as Big Brothers Big Sisters, Girls Scouts, Boy Scouts, Girls Inc., Boys and Girls Clubs, 4-H, YWCA and YMCA, just to name a few, have shown increased in academics when youth are associated with after-school programs. By coordinating a development program, youth will experience psychological development, social and cognitive development, and academic and career development - which are all beneficial for the youth.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,
Kevin Aganos

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Cc: sashao@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1346 on Mar 15, 2016 13:15PM
Date: Monday, March 14, 2016 12:46:00 PM

HB1346

Submitted on: 3/14/2016

Testimony for HMS on Mar 15, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sasha Toyama	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I am writing this testimony on behalf of all the children who are unable to voice their concerns at this level. I was born on the Big Island and have seen first hand the effects boredom and a lack of recreational activities can have on a child. My high school had the highest rate of teen pregnancy in the nation for many years and that's not something I am proud to say about my hometown and high school. While I cannot claim that youth programming would solve the problems faced in our community, I can say that I believe they would make a positive impact especially in the communities with children of low socioeconomic status. Kids need something productive to do and if it is not made available to them, they will seek it out in unhealthy ways. I support this bill because I support the kids who have skills and potential but nowhere to focus it.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Cc: tabraham08@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1346 on Mar 15, 2016 13:15PM*
Date: Monday, March 14, 2016 12:11:01 PM

HB1346

Submitted on: 3/14/2016

Testimony for HMS on Mar 15, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Troy Abraham	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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