



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 2231
RELATING TO AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS**

Chair Tokuda, Vice-Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committee:

The Office of the Lieutenant Governor ***supports*** Senate Bill 2231, Relating to After-school programs. This measure formally establishes the R.E.A.C.H. (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 and authorizes participating schools to assess and collect fees.

The middle school years are a critical time in a child's life where disengagement can start to take hold, and the stakes of disengagement are high. *Nearly half of all first time juvenile arrests in the State of Hawaii occur at the middle school age.* 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 families and the taxpayer. The bottom line is that high quality after-school programs keep kids on the path that leads to high school, college, career, and ultimately, a better quality of life. This bill addresses a critical need for Hawaii's middle school students.

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. Since 2013, the Lieutenant Governor and his office has worked collaboratively 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. In FY15, 31 out of 54 public middle and intermediate schools applied for R.E.A.C.H. funding – of those 31, 19 were selected – 9 of those 19 were funded in the previous year.

The Office of the Lieutenant Governor supports SB 2231 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: 02/26/2016
Time: 09:40 AM
Location: 211
Committee: Senate Ways and Means

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 2231 RELATING TO AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS.

Purpose of Bill: Establishes the R.E.A.C.H (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. Authorizes participating schools to collect fees.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education supports SB 2231. The middle school years are a critical time in a child's life. Middle and intermediate after-school programs 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.

R.E.A.C.H. or Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture and Health is an initiative spearheaded by the Office of the Lieutenant Governor working in collaboration with the Department of Education. The purpose of this statewide initiative is to provide an organizational framework for public schools to offer after-school programs for middle and intermediate school students so they can stay on track toward high school graduation and be better prepared for future success. The after-school programs offer instruction and activities from three general areas: academic enrichment, arts and culture, and athletics.

During school year 2015-16, the following public middle/intermediate schools and complexes are benefitting from the R.E.A.C.H. program: Waikoloa Elementary & Middle, Waiakea Intermediate, Kalaniana'ole Elementary & Intermediate, Waimea Canyon Middle, Kalama Intermediate, Molokai Middle, Waialua High & Intermediate, Jarrett Middle, Moanalua Middle, Kalakaua Middle, Kapolei Middle, Washington Middle, Waipahu Intermediate, Kahuku High & Intermediate, Kau-Keaau-Pahoa Complex Area, and the Nanakuli-Waianae Complex Area.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on SB2231.



SB2231
RELATING TO AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

February 26, 2016

9:40 a.m.

Room 211

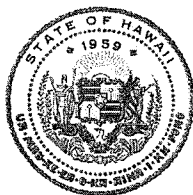
The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** SB2231, which would establish the Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture and Health (REACH) Program within the Office of Youth Services, provide a standardized framework and a funding mechanism for after-school programs in public middle schools, and require the Office of Youth Services to report annually to the Legislature.

The REACH initiative proposes to fill the current void of after-school activities for public middle and intermediate school students with an organizational framework, 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 your Committee to **PASS** SB2231.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



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

February 24, 2016

TO: The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Merton Chinen, Executive Director

SUBJECT: **TESTIMONY RE: SB 2231 - RELATING TO AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS**

Hearing: Friday, February 26, 2016, 9:40 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

OFFICE'S POSITION: The Office of Youth Services (OYS) supports this measure.

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.

Providing quality after school programming for middle schoolers through afterschool programs will address those very issues – relationships, connections and school engagement will positively impact school attendance and success.

Currently, there are 19 middle/intermediate schools statewide receiving Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture, and Health) R.E.A.C.H funds, including ten schools on Oahu, six on Hawaii Island, one on Maui, one on Molokai and one on Kauai. These schools have introduced programming ranging from robotics to band, tutoring to athletics, and cultural programming to health and nutrition.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this measure 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. This measure also establishes program requirements and participation

fees or other charges to be assessed to each participant for the cost of administering and operating the R.E.A.C.H.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CATHERINE PAYNE
CHAIRPERSON

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION
(‘AHA KULA HO‘ĀMANA)

<http://CharterCommission.Hawaii.Gov>
1111 Bishop Street, Suite 516, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Tel: (808) 586-3775 Fax: (808) 586-3776

FOR: SB 2231 Relating to After-School Programs
DATE: Friday, February 26, 2016
TIME: 9:40 AM
COMMITTEE(S): Senate Committee on Ways and Means
ROOM: Conference Room 211
FROM: Tom Hutton, Executive Director
State Public Charter School Commission

Testimony in support of SB 2231

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the Committee:

The State Public Charter School Commission appreciates the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of Senate Bill 2231, "Relating to After-School Programs." The Commission is grateful to the sponsors of this bill for its continued support of our middle school students and the inclusion of public charter schools in this impactful program that provides our students with the needed support to continue on the path of positive growth and success later in life.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance
841 Bishop Street, Suite 301· Honolulu, HI 96813



February 26, 2016

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair
State Capitol
Conference Room 211

Re: Support of SB 3099: RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Committee Members:

The Hawaii Afterschool Alliance strongly supports Senate Bill 2231, which seeks to establish the R.E.A.C.H (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.

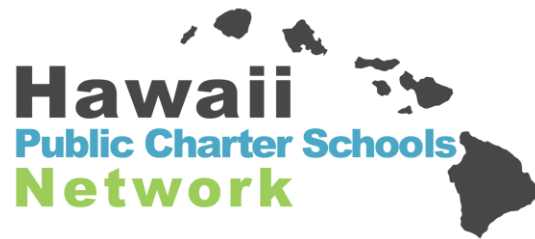
Investing in after-school programs pays dividends. Youth engaged in safe and enriching after-school programs do better in school. They are less likely to use drugs or alcohol, engage in sexual activity, and be involved in automobile or other accidents. They are more likely to pursue post high school education and become higher wage earners. For every dollar invested in afterschool, taxpayers saved three dollars not including savings from a six-fold drop in crime for participating boys.

Investing in after-school programs is cost effective, smart, and simply the right thing to do.

In conclusion, the Hawaii Afterschool Alliance strongly supports SB 2231 and respectfully urges the passage of this bill so that students in Hawai'i have the support they need to participate in a high-quality afterschool program. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Paula Adams
Executive Director
Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance
(p/f): 808-380-1602
hawaiiafterschool@gmail.com
www.hawaiiafterschoolalliance.org



February 25, 2016

To: Honorable Jill Tokuda, Chair
Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Jeannine Souki, Executive Director
Hawaii Public Charter Schools Network

Re: **SB 2231 – Relating to After-School Programs – SUPPORT**
Conference Room 211 – Hawaii State Capitol – Feb. 26, 2016, 9:40 A.M.

On behalf of the Hawaii Public Charter School Network (HPCSN), we are submitting support testimony for SB2231, Relating to After-School Programs, which would establish the R.E.A.C.H (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, including public charter schools.

HPCSN urges your committee's support passage of this bill and this program, which is designed to keep middle school children engaged in cognitive and social interaction with their peers after school hours. Afterschool programs like REACH help to stimulate academic performance, reduce risky behaviors, encourage physical health, and provide children of working parents a safe and structured environment to thrive.

HPCSN works to support public charter schools in Hawaii and to be a voice for children and families that seek choice in an independent public school setting.

Thank you for consideration of our comments. We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of HPCSN.

HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

677 Ala Moana Boulevard, Suite 904 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: (808) 489-9549

Web site: <http://www.hysn.org> E-mail: info@hysn.org

Rick Collins, President

Judith F. Clark, Executive
Director

Big Brothers Big Sisters of
Hawaii

Bobby Benson Center

Central Oahu Youth Services
Association

Child and Family Service

Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii

Domestic Violence Action Center

EPIC, Inc.

Family Programs Hawaii

Family Support Hawaii

Hale Kipa, Inc.

Hale 'Opio Kauai, Inc.

Hawaii Student Television

Hui Malama Learning Center

Kokua Kalihi Valley

Life Foundation

Marimed Foundation

Maui Youth and Family Services

P.A.R.E.N.T.S., Inc.

Parents and Children Together
(PACT)

Planned Parenthood of the
Great Northwest and
Hawaiian Islands

Salvation Army Family

Intervention Services

Sex Abuse Treatment Center

Susannah Wesley Community
Center

The Catalyst Group

Uhane Pohaku Na Moku

O Hawai'i

Waikiki Health

February 23, 2016

To: Senator Jill Tokudaa, Chair
And members of the Committee on Ways and Means

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2231 RELATING TO AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

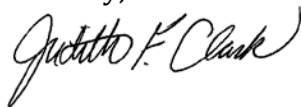
Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports SB 2231 Relating to After-school Programs.

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



An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

February 26, 2016

The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: SB 2231 – Relating to After School Programs

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Medical Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2231, establishing the Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture, and Health (REACH) program in the Office of Youth Services.

HMSA's mission is to ensure the health and wellbeing of our members, particularly children. We support programs that promote a healthier lifestyle, and we have engaged in multiple levels of partnerships to accomplish this. HMSA has partnered with Healthways to implement Blue Zones Communities across the state. These are neighborhood organizations, businesses, and schools that have committed to redesigning their community so that it facilitates neighbors engaging in their own healthier lifestyle.

Children remain a critical focus of our drive to community wellbeing. HMSA has partnered with REACH, the Lieutenant Governor's Office, and the U.S. Soccer Foundation on the "Soccer for Success" program. This is an afterschool program that uses soccer as a tool to address children's health issues. Three schools currently are engage in the Soccer for Success program, providing with free afterschool programming three times per week for the entire school year.

Through our participation in the Soccer for Success program, we can attest to REACH being a valuable partner in helping us meet our goal of healthy children, healthy families, and a healthy community.

Thank you for allowing us to testify in support of SB 2231.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Diesman
Vice President, Government Relations



JARRETT MIDDLE SCHOOL | KE ALAKA'I

TO: Senate Committee on Ways and Means
The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

FROM: Dr. Reid Kuba, Principal
Jarrett Middle School

SUBJECT: **TESTIMONY RE: SB 2231 – RELATING TO AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS**
Decision Making Hearing: Friday, February 26, 2016, 9:40 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of SB 2231.

From age 0-3 is when a person's body and brains go through tremendous change. The only other time in a human's lifespan where that much change goes on, is during the adolescent years. However, the huge difference between a baby and a middle schooler is that they are now aware of the tremendous changes going on with their bodies and are simultaneously trying to manage school, family, friends, etc. and make sense of it all.

Simply consider your own child or grandchild going through these unprecedented social, physiological, emotional, and intellectual changes *all at once*. Would you like them to make decisions, formulate their view of the world, and solve problems with an adult's guidance in a structured environment? Or the alternative of running around communities making decisions on their own, and worse, possibly looking to the internet for guidance. Having an adult mentor during the unstructured after school hours makes a tremendous difference on the types of students we choose to develop here in Hawaii.

At Jarrett Middle School, the REACH Grant helps to make our after school program happen. Through the great partnership with the After School All Stars Program, students have a place to go after school. This program helps create greater structure in their lives into the early evening and even on weekends. I am certain there are others who will speak of the great opportunities the After School All Stars brings to our kids like being a part of sports teams, winning first place in the Western Region for the Stock Market Game, or how kids learn to cook from a professional chef. I want to share some of the intangibles that I am certain that the After School All Stars program contributes to at Jarrett Middle School:

- Increased number of students given the opportunity to serve in student leadership positions through daily TV announcements to the whole school.
- Increased compassion and relationships between Special Education and General Education students through sports and fine arts programs.
- An increase in student grades due to daily homework hours taught by highly qualified teachers.
- ZERO incidents of fighting after school
- ZERO incidents of drugs on campus
- ZERO incidents of alcohol on campus

Helping our students navigate their middle level years helps to build a strong foundation that increases the probability of their success as citizens here in the State of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to share.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: kaiulani@kalo.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2231 on Feb 26, 2016 09:40AM*
Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 2:52:56 PM

SB2231

Submitted on: 2/24/2016

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2016 09:40AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ka'iulani Pahi'o	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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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KALAKAUA MIDDLE SCHOOL
821 Kalihi St.
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96819

TO: Senate Committee on Ways and Means
The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

FROM: Lorelei Aiwohi, Principal
Kalakaua Middle School

SUBJECT: **TESTIMONY RE: SB 2231 – RELATING TO AFTERSCHOOL
PROGRAMS**

Decision Making Hearing: Friday, February 26, 2016, 9:40 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 2231.

The middle school years are a pivotal time for students. The State Office of Youth Services estimates that middle school aged children account for nearly half of all first time juvenile arrests in the State of Hawaii.

We are honored to have been selected as one of the 19 public middle/intermediate schools statewide to receive R.E.A.C.H. funds. The R.E.A.C.H. Initiative represents an upfront investment in Hawaii's youth to keep them engaged in high-quality, positive, prosocial, enrichment, athletics, culture, and health programs.

R.E.A.C.H. reduces the risk of a variety of undesirable behaviors among adolescents and increases school attendance and achievement and reduces dropout rates. Hawaii's working families need programs like R.E.A.C.H. to ensure that children are safe and engaged. Although funded in the executive budget through the Office of Youth Services, the formal establishment of the R.E.A.C.H. Initiative is important to the future of Hawaii's youth and overall welfare of the State.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 2231.

DAVID IGE
GOVERNOR



Kathryn S. Matayoshi
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
WAIPAHAU INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
94-455 FARRINGTON HIGHWAY
WAIPAHAU, HAWAII 96797

February 25, 2016

The Honorable Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
The Honorable Senator Denovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair
& Members of the Committee on Ways and Means

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee,

RE: SB 2231 REALATING TO AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

My name is Randell Dunn and I am the Principal of Waipahu Intermediate School. Middle/Intermediate School age students undergo many changes, physically, socially and emotionally. Because of these changes these students tend to be irritable, impulsive and seek to be accepted and a part of something. Rather than leaving these students to the influences of experimenting with drugs, promiscuity, gangs and criminal behaviors, we need to have these students become involved in constructive, guided programs and activities to give them a feeling of success and opportunities to discover their passion.

The R.E.A.C.H. (resources for enrichment, athletics, culture and health) program has been essential in creating programs and activities to give students an opportunity to find their passion and have positive experiences beyond the school day. The program has also bridged the gap of ethnic and social differences by bringing students from different ethnic groups and social standing to a place of common interest. Students that would not interact during the school day now interact around something that they are interested or passionate about.

It is imperative that programs such as R.E.A.C.H. continue to get supported, funded and become a part of the everyday opportunities for our Middle/Intermediate age students. I urge you to support SB 2231.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 2231.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randell Dunn".

Randell Dunn


Principal

Waipahu Intermediate School



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PRESIDENT GEORGE WASHINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL
1633 SOUTH KING STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96826-2099

TO: Senate Committee on Ways and Means
The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

FROM: 
Michael K. Harano, Principal
Washington Middle School

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY RE: SB 2231 – RELATING TO AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS

Decision Making Hearing: Friday, February 26, 2016, 9:40 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 2231.

The middle school years are a pivotal time for students. The State Office of Youth Services estimates that middle school aged children account for nearly half of all first time juvenile arrests in the State of Hawaii.

We are honored to have been selected as one of the 19 public middle/intermediate schools statewide to receive R.E.A.C.H. funds. The R.E.A.C.H. Initiative represents an upfront investment in Hawaii's youth to keep them engaged in high-quality, positive, prosocial, enrichment, athletics, culture, and health programs.

R.E.A.C.H. reduces the risk of a variety of undesirable behaviors among adolescents and increases school attendance and achievement and reduces dropout rates. Hawaii's working families need programs like R.E.A.C.H. to ensure that children are safe and engaged. Although funded in the executive budget through the Office of Youth Services, the formal establishment of the R.E.A.C.H. Initiative is important to the future of Hawaii's youth and overall welfare of the State.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 2231.

February 26, 2016

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair
State Capitol
Conference Room 211

Re: Support of SB 2231: RELATING TO AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS.

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Committee Members:

The Pioneering Healthier Community (PHC) leadership team strongly supports Senate Bill 2231, which seeks Establishes the R.E.A.C.H (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.

Investing in after school programs pays dividends. Youth engaged in safe and enriching after-school programs do better in school. They are less likely to use drugs or alcohol, engage in sexual activity, and be involved in automobile or other accidents. They are more likely to pursue post high school education and become higher wage earners.

Our Honolulu Pioneering Healthier Communities collaborative brings together local, diverse leaders to discuss and support strategies, policies and programs that we can accomplish together to build healthier communities in our island home. Collectively we focus on creating policy changes and supporting community initiatives relating to health and wellness. We respectfully urge the passage of Senate Bill 2231 so that students in Hawai'i have the support they need to participate in a high-quality afterschool program.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Respectfully,
Michael Broderick, President/CEO YMCA of Honolulu
Co-Chair, Pioneering Healthier Communities – Honolulu

Anni Peterson
Tai Matsuoka
May Okihiro
Joy Barua
Ray L'Heureux
Diane Tabangay

TO: Senate Committee on Ways and Means
The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

FROM: Charlotte Godfrey-Romo, 6th, 7th & 8th Grade Science Teacher
Kalaniana'ole, Papaiko, HI

SUBJECT: **TESTIMONY RE: SB 2231 – RELATING TO AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS**

Decision Making Hearing: Friday, February 26, 2016, 9:40 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of SB 2231.

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R.E.A.C.H. reduces the risk of a variety of undesirable behaviors among adolescents and increases school attendance and achievement and reduces dropout rates. Hawaii's working families need programs like R.E.A.C.H. to ensure that children are safe and engaged. Although funded in the executive budget through the Office of Youth Services, the formal establishment of the R.E.A.C.H. Initiative is important to the future of Hawaii's youth and overall welfare of the State.

The R.E.A.C.H. Initiative has offered incredible opportunities for our after school Marine Science and Science Olympiad clubs. I hope I am able to keep offering students these kinds of experiences .

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 2231.

Sincerely,
Charlotte Godfrey-Romo
1445 Waianuenue Ave.
Hilo, HI
96720



250 Vineyard Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
(808) 521-9531

FamilyProgramsHawaii.com

TO: Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means

HEARING: Friday, February 26, 2016
9:40 AM
Conference Room 211

FROM: Judith Wilhoite
Family Advocate
It Takes An `Ohana

RE: SB2231 – Relating to Human Services

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I am the Family Advocate for Family Program Hawaii's *It Takes An Ohana* program and a resource caregiver. We support SB2231.

This bill will help Hawaii's foster children and their resource caregivers. There are two fundamental goals of fostering. They are to help biological families reconnect whenever possible and to provide foster children with opportunities to heal and acquire healthy life skills while they are in our homes.

As stated in the bill, after-school programs represent an upfront investment in Hawaii's youth. Foster children, more than almost any other children, are in need of this investment, for they are at risk of worse life outcomes than their peers. Making after school programs available to middle school age foster children will help them develop skills and experience, things they can take with them no matter where they go. Additionally, being able to participate in these programs will also provide a sense of normalcy to our foster children, something that is crucial to healthy development in adolescents.

We agree that the establishment of this program is important to the future of Hawaii's opio and the welfare of the State as a whole and strongly support SB2231.

Thank you for this opportunity to support this bill.

We help kids

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: jbickel15@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2231 on Feb 26, 2016 09:40AM
Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 2:05:28 PM

SB2231

Submitted on: 2/24/2016

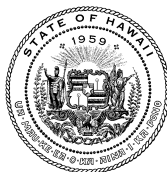
Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2016 09:40AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Bickel	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Having taught secondary school since 1989, I am keenly aware of how important after school programs are to the whole development of children. Please support this bill.

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
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
WAIALUA HIGH AND INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
67-160 FARRINGTON HIGHWAY
WAIALUA, HAWAII 96791

TO: Senate Committee on Ways and Means
The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

FROM: Avis Nanbu, Principal
Waialua High and Intermediate School

SUBJECT: **TESTIMONY RE: SB 2231 – RELATING TO AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS**

Decision Making Hearing: Friday, February 26, 2016, 9:40 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of SB 2231.

The middle school years are a pivotal time for students. The State Office of Youth Services estimates that middle school aged children account for nearly half of all first time juvenile arrests in the State of Hawaii.

We are honored to have been selected as one of the 19 public middle/intermediate schools statewide to receive R.E.A.C.H. funds. The R.E.A.C.H. Initiative represents an upfront investment in Hawaii's youth to keep them engaged in high-quality, positive, prosocial, enrichment, athletics, culture, and health programs.

R.E.A.C.H. reduces the risk of a variety of undesirable behaviors among adolescents and increases school attendance and achievement and reduces dropout rates. Hawaii's working families need programs like R.E.A.C.H. to ensure that children are safe and engaged. Our students live in a rural community where afterschool activities for middle school students are limited. The funds that we received have provided opportunities for our students to participate in band, robotics, digital media and intramural athletics. Although funded in the executive budget through the Office of Youth Services, the formal establishment of the R.E.A.C.H. Initiative is important to the future of Hawaii's youth and overall welfare of the State.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 2231.

Personal Written Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Friday, February 26, 2016 at 9:40 a.m. Room 211
by
Donald B. Young

SB 2231 – RELATING TO AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the Committee on Ways and Means, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 2231.

My name is Donald Young. I am Dean of the College of Education at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. However, my testimony today is personal.

The College of Education is a partner in the Hawai‘i Afterschool Alliance that operates with funding from the Mott Foundation and matching funds from several local institutions and agencies. The purpose of the Alliance is to support afterschool and summer programs for Hawai‘i’s youth. Through the Alliance I have come to know and understand the need to support extended learning opportunities during these critical hours.

The language of SB 2231 describes well the current situation and the need for support. The proposed 3 to 6 program will provide quality care and learning experiences that will reduce risk behaviors while enhancing educational outcomes through extended learning time.

I fully support the intent of SB 2231 and encourage the committee to pass the bill with recommended appropriation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

TO: Sen. Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Sen. Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair
And Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Eiichi Jumawan

SUBJECT: SB 3034, SD 1 Proposing an Amendment to Article I of the
Constitution of the State of Hawaii to Establish Rights for Victims of Crime

HEARING DATE: February 24, 2016, 1:00 p.m.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 3034, SD 1 to amend the Hawaii State Constitution to guarantee that crime victims and their surviving family members have enforceable rights. I urge your Committee to please pass this measure.

It's really hard to communicate my feelings on this subject because I am so angry. I continually see criminals getting off while victims are just left to pick up the pieces with no justice at all.

My nephew was killed by a driver who according to witnesses ran my nephew down, fled from the scene of the accident, abandoned the vehicle, fled from police and was later held in contempt of court. We found out this person had multiple previous offenses and has complete lack of respect for the law. Yet the judge in our case continues to show compassion to this offender and has shown total lack of concern for justice in regards to my nephew and sister. Why does someone who thumbs their nose at our laws get more rights than those of us who obey them?

Members for our fine State have continually contacted me as to the outrage at the treatment of our case and many others in the media. Yet the people I trust to legislate and govern this State have seemed to turn their back on me. My nephew was run over – dragged for 6 football fields – left to die in the road like an animal and the offender later laughed and mocked him on facebook. Yet she is being shown more mercy, compassion and “rights” than my sister, who has now had to pick up the pieces of her life after this traumatic event stole her son’s life.

Various people in my family have been affected – suffer from PTSD – can not work – cry continually. They can not understand why the State is not helping to punish the person who did this. My family and I feel victimized by the court which has given more rights to the person who broke the law, than to us. In our case, the Offender drove without a license, insurance or registration multiple times. At the time of her arrest she had multiple traffic warrants and she was actually out on bail at the time of the accident. She also fled from the law several times, showing no respect for the law and authority. However, the Judge deems her fit to stay at a halfway house funded by our taxpayer dollars, living with her child and being able to come and go as she pleases while she “gets her life together”. My nephew was not afforded the chance to live his life – even though he had his “life together”. He had gone to school, had a job, had a motorcycle which was legal and licensed with the state, had a job, was not on welfare or any handouts from the State and was mentoring his younger brother who just got back from National Guard training. This person stole my nephews life, whether intentionally or not, does it seem right to give her chance after chance to “get her life together”?

And when she is sentenced – almost 16 months after this accident has occurred the most she can get is 10 years and the least is 18 months with time served. This makes me angry and confused. Some people get more of a penalty for talking on their cell phones or for traffic violations than this offender may be sentenced to. What a travesty! **18 months for taking a life – yet a lifetime of grief and heartache for our family.** She killed the faith of many in our judicial system. I beg YOU to restore it!

How can she ever change if she is being taught over and over again that there are no consequences for driving when she is not supposed to, in a state of mind that she is not supposed to be in – much less for taking a precious life of a loved, law abiding citizen who was a positive contributor to society.

The maximum sentence the offender can receive is 10 years, plus 1. But my nephew received a life sentence, as did his family. His promising young life was cut down by a random act of road rage, possibly induced by drugs, because we know now the offender has or had a drug problem, which the State is now paying for Rehab for. My nephews Mom will never see him succeed in the career he trained for, will not see him in the apartment he had just rented, will never meet his wife or see her grandchildren, or feel his arms around her, or hear his laugh, or have his aid when she is old and gray. She has suffered severe financial hardship from this. His brother will never be the same – he is sad a lot and quiet. He misses being mentored in his career by his older brother and what would have been his roommate. We will never see all that my nephew would have accomplished in and contributed to this world. Yet the offender will be allowed to be with her children and grandchildren and friends. She will be and may I add, **has been** able to, enjoy the warmth of the sun on her face and spending time with her kids while on mere probation. She will be able to get out and drive again. And endanger all the residents of Hawaii once more with her irresponsible driving habits and lack of respect **for the law**. She will be able to laugh and enjoy ALL her family members at family functions, unlike ours.

Yes, our family has been disrupted and family functions are no longer the same. One niece can no longer drive and has missed months of work because of her fear to be on the roads. My sister cries all the time. My mom does the same. These are just some examples of the victims of this crime – who don't understand the leniency, mercy and compassion the offenders are shown.

My family are already suffering a "life sentence" having to live without our nephew. Please do not give the offender more rights by taking our away.

I urge your Committee to pass this measure. Thank you for considering my testimony in support of SB 3034 SD1

Testimony in Support of SB 2231

To: *Committee on Ways and Means*
Senator Jill N. Takuda, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

Committee Members
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland
Senator J. Kalani English
Senator Brickwood Harimoto
Senator Breene Harimoto
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye
Senator Gill Riviere
Senator Brian T. Taniguchu
Senator Glenn Wakai
Senator Sam Slom

Hearing: Friday, February 25, 2016
9:40 AM
Conference Room 211

From: Jaimee Tabangay

I strongly support SB 2231; Relating to After-School Programs, which seeks to establish the R.E.A.C.H (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.

I have been working with children at the Elementary level for over five years and have had the pleasure in watching children grow and learn from and in the Afterschool programs in Elementary schools (A plus program). I have also had a chance to see some of those same children move onto Middle School and in the afterschool hours have no place to go or anything to do. Some of them would go back to their elementary school and hang around with and by the children and staff of the A plus program there due to familiar people, people/adults they trust and feel safe with. In another unfortunate situation I have also witnessed some who have gotten into trouble either with the law or with other middle school students. Specifically getting into fights in the street, kids bullying and jumping other children who are walking home from school. To have witnessed the amazing growth in these children through their elementary years and to then see and hear about such unfortunate things about those same children have been heart breaking. And has opened my eyes to realize and support Afterschool programs in Hawaii's Middle Schools

Children of all ages not only deserve a safe place to go after their school bells rings, but a place where they can continue learning, growing and thriving. Especially for Middle School age children due being a critical and important stage in children's lives, as it explains in the bill.

Studies (“2014 America After 3PM”) tell us that:

- 93% of Hawaii’s parents support public funding for afterschool programs;
- 86% of Hawaii’s parents agree that afterschool programs give parents peace of mind about their children when they are at work;
- 72% of parents in Hawaii’ agree that afterschool programs help parents keep their jobs;
- 75% of Hawaii’s parents agree that afterschool programs reduce the likelihood that youth will engage in risky behaviors; and
- 62% of the parents in Hawaii agree that afterschool programs excite children about learning.

These numbers provide strong reasoning for protecting, supporting, and providing quality afterschool programs in Hawaii and for all of its children.

Please pass SB 2231 so children in middle school can have the opportunity to continue their learning and growing, experience new things, enhance their existing interests and skills/ gifts, and have a safe place to go during the after school hours.

Sincerely,

Jaimee Tabangay