



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

Testimony COMMENTING on HB2364 HD1
RELATING TO JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM

REPRESENTATIVE SCOTT Y. NISHIMOTO, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Hearing Date: February 13, 2018,
2:00 pm

Room Number: 325

1 **Department Testimony:** The purpose of this bill is to amend chapter 352 and chapter 352D,
2 Hawaii Revised Statutes, to establish the Kawaihoa Youth and Family Wellness Center, and
3 transform the approach of juvenile justice to a therapeutic model.

4 The Department of Health supports the intent of this bill and provides comments. The
5 Department of Health supports the intent of the legislation to divert at risk youth (ages 21 years
6 and under) from involvement in the justice system and/or placement in out of state mental health
7 facilities.

8 Currently, the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division (CAMHD), a division of the
9 Department of Health's Behavioral Health Administration, provides mental health prevention,
10 assessment, and treatment services to over 2,000 children and adolescents with emotional and
11 behavioral challenges and their families statewide. CAMHD also works in partnership with the
12 Office of Youth Services (OYS) to provide behavioral and emotional health services to at risk
13 youth placed at Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility (HYCF) via the co-located Family Court
14 Liaison Branch (FCLB). Thus, the CAMHD is well-positioned to comment on this bill and has
15 been in collaborative discussions with OYS regarding the therapeutic vision of Kawaihoa's
16 residential and/or intensive delinquency prevention programs. In initial discussions with OYS,
17 CAMHD has identified several potential opportunities for CAMHD involvement at the Kawaihoa
18 facility:

- 1 1. Possible collaboration with OYS to develop a request for proposals process and contract
2 with outside agencies for behavioral and emotional health services. This partnership
3 would ensure that the Kawaihoa youth and families would be offered therapeutic
4 treatment from providers who have been both screened through a rigorous evaluation
5 process and have demonstrated experience in the management of residential emotional
6 and behavioral health programs.

- 7 2. Possible provision of certain types of intensive evidence-based treatments to youth clients
8 (21 years and under) at Kawaihoa, presenting with high-risk behaviors (e.g., suicidality,
9 substance use, aggression).

10 At the same time, the Department of Health judges that this vitally needed programming
11 proposed in this administrative proposal will require newly designated state resources and cannot
12 be achieved by relying on present allocations.

13 In summary, the Department of Health supports the intent of HB2364 HD1 and has identified
14 numerous opportunities for partnership with OYS, towards the goal of providing better services
15 for our local youth and families.

16 Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this bill.



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

Date: 02/13/2018
Time: 02:00 PM
Location: 325
Committee: House Judiciary

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 2364, HD1 RELATING TO JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM.

Purpose of Bill: Establishes the Kawaioloa Youth and Family Wellness center and transforms the approach of juvenile justice to a therapeutic model. (HB2364 HD1)

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports the intent of HB 2364 HD1, with comments. While HB 2364, HD1 addresses therapeutic measures, it is unclear how the proposed Kawaioloa Youth and Family Wellness Center will provide a quality standards based education and special education services to eligible at risk young adults between the ages of 18 and 24.

Young adults under the age of 22, who are eligible for special education, must still be provided all appropriate services, per their Individualized Education Program (IEP). In accordance with the Department's child-find responsibilities, any student under the age of 22, not currently eligible for special education and is suspected to have a disability, is entitled to an evaluation.

Currently, Olomana School provides a quality standards based education to students at the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility (HYCF), Detention Home (DH), Home Maluhia, and Olomana Youth Center (OYC), with approximately 33% of the students receiving special education services. The Department is seeking clarification regarding how the educational needs of current Olomana School students as well as those at the proposed Kawaioloa Youth and Family Wellness Center, will be supported.

A collaborative partnership between the Department and HYCF as they develop Kawaioloa Youth and Family Wellness Center is encouraged to ensure that students receive a quality education as well as the supports and services necessary to earn a high school diploma, GED, certificate, or pursue post-secondary education and/or careers.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 2364 HD1.

The Hawaii State Department of Education seeks to advance the goals of the Strategic Plan which is focused on student success, staff success, and successful systems of support. This is achieved through targeted work around three impact strategies: school design, student voice,

and teacher collaboration. Detailed information is available at www.hawaiipublicschools.org.



**Office of the Public Defender
State of Hawaii**



**Testimony of the Office of the Public Defender
to the House Committee on Judiciary**

February 13, 2018

H.B. No. 2364, HD1: RELATING TO JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM.
(HSCR72-18)

Chair Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair Joy A. San Buenaventura, and Members of the Committee:

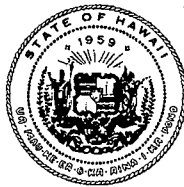
The Office of the Public Defender strongly supports the passage of HB 2364. We believe that this bill provides for the formation and establishment of an office to oversee the reinvestment of funds that have been saved through the reforms mandated by Act 201 of 2014. We believe that the passage of this bill will expand the work started by Act 201, to those youth in need that are not presently being served.

Our community is filled with dedicated people who have made it their professional and personal missions to help our youth, however they continue to need legislative and financial support to continue their missions. This bill covers several different avenues of support, all of which are greatly important. However, we would like to speak to three critical areas of need. We would like to see an expansion of services in the areas of substance abuse treatment, mental health treatment and support for victims of human and sex trafficking. We believe that the proposed youth and family wellness center would be an ideal place to provide expanded services in these areas, which could include a safe haven for victims of human and sex trafficking.

Furthermore, we would applaud the expansion of services to young adults to the age of twenty-four to aid in their proper reintegration into our community.

For these reasons, we support H.B. No. 2364.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in this matter.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF YOUTH SERVICES
1010 Richards Street, Suite 314
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

February 12, 2018

TO: The Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Chair
House Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Merton Chinen, Executive Director

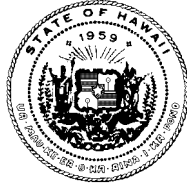
SUBJECT: HB 2364, Relating to Juvenile Justice Reform

Hearing: Tuesday, February 13, 2018, 2:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

OFFICE'S POSITION: OYS supports the measure. The overarching goal of establishing the Kawailoa youth and family wellness center (KYFWC) is to be a pu'uhonou, or place of healing, for youth and young adults. Many youth have experienced some form of trauma in their young lives that have negatively impacted their functioning and coping behaviors, resulting in their involvement with the juvenile justice, child welfare, mental health, substance abuse and other systems of care. Accessing appropriate services and programs to address root causes is critical to increase resiliency and protective factors for youth at-risk. Youth involved in one or more systems of care are often challenged in making connections, sustaining healthy relationships, and building academic/vocational/life skills; providing culturally-grounded, and therapeutically appropriate programming at KYFWC will help their journeys as they make the transition through young adulthood.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the measure is to establish the Kawailoa youth and family wellness center at the Hawaii youth correctional facility of the office of youth services to incorporate a more therapeutic and rehabilitative focus.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

February 12, 2018

TO: The Honorable Representative John M. Mizuno, Chair
House Committee on Health and Human Services

FROM: Pankaj Bhanot, Director

SUBJECT: **HB 2364 HD1 – RELATING TO JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM**

Hearing: Tuesday, February 12, 2018, 2:00 p.m.
Conference Room 325, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports this administration measure and provides comments.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the bill is to amend chapter 352 and chapter 352D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to establish the Kawaihoa Youth and Family Wellness Center, and transform the approach of juvenile justice to a therapeutic model. The Wellness Center will provide much needed services for at-risk youth and young adults, including victims of commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC).

DHS supports the continuing efforts to reform the juvenile justice system, recognizes the need for additional services for at-risk youth and young adults in the community, and supports the development of a therapeutic model to address complex issues affecting our youth.

DHS Child Welfare Services Branch (CWS) had concerns regarding the mixture of minors with adult population. CWS met with the Office of Youth Services (OYS) and clarified with OYS that although the Wellness Center would provide services to youth and young adults between the ages of eighteen and twenty-four, the crisis shelter for victims of human trafficking would be limited to minors. This separation is necessary to ensure that these

minor victims are not in residence or residential care with adults. CSEC victims who are minors and the young adult population at the Wellness Center will not be integrated, and provisions will be in place to separate participants from the various programs on the property to ensure that all of those being serviced on the property are safe.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



LATE

HB2364 HD1
RELATING TO JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM
House Committee on Judiciary

February 13, 2018

2:00 p.m.

Room 325

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** HB2364 HD1. This measure would transform the Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility into the Kawaihoa Youth and Family Wellness Center, which would adopt an innovative, therapeutic approach specifically designed to help heal Hawai'i's troubled youth, restore their families, and enhance the long-term safety and overall well-being of our communities.

In 2010, OHA produced a comprehensive report detailing the overrepresentation and disparate treatment of Native Hawaiians in the criminal justice system.¹ This report found that Native Hawaiian youth are disproportionately represented in the juvenile justice system, and are also most frequently arrested in all offense categories.² Since 2012, OHA has also administered the Native Hawaiian Justice Task Force (NHJTF), which was tasked by the Legislature to address the multi-faceted issue of Native Hawaiian involvement in the criminal justice system.³ **In its report, the Task Force further acknowledged that "an individual's contact with the criminal justice system, regardless of race, often begins at youth."**⁴

The proposed Kawaihoa Youth and Family Wellness Center will help to address these very concerning findings, by taking an innovative approach to rehabilitating at-risk and offending youth that is individual-, family-, and community-focused. OHA understands that the Center will focus on treating the root causes of delinquent youth behavior, rather than by simply punishing the symptoms, thereby reducing the likelihood that offending youth will continue to engage in criminal activity through adulthood. For example, services offered will seek to proactively prevent and disrupt juvenile delinquency by addressing the unique challenges faced by youth experiencing homelessness, drug addiction, mental illness, and human trafficking. The Ho'opono Mamo diversion program supported by this measure, which has already demonstrated success with its youth participants, will also continue to provide moral and spiritual grounding for at-risk Hawaiian youth by focusing

¹ OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS, THE DISPARATE TREATMENT OF NATIVE HAWAIIANS IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM (2010), https://19of32x2yl33s8o4xza0gf14-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/ir_final_web_rev.pdf.

² *Id.* at 68.

³ OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS, NATIVE HAWAIIAN JUSTICE TASK FORCE REPORT (2012), https://19of32x2yl33s8o4xza0gf14-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2012NHJTF_REPORT_FINAL_0.pdf.

⁴ *Id.* at 21.

on personal accountability and interpersonal healing through traditional Hawaiian practices including pule, ho'oponopono, and mālama 'āina. **OHA believes that these early-stage therapeutic approaches will help to heal our broken youth, resulting in stronger individuals and families, and will likely provide long-term benefits to public safety and the overall well-being of our communities.** In addition, OHA is hopeful that the success of the Kawaioloa Center may also serve as a model for greater reform of our criminal justice system in general.

Therefore, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** HB2364 HD1. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

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

Bay Clinic

Big Brothers Big Sisters of
Hawaii

Bobby Benson Center

Child and Family Service

Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii

Domestic Violence Action Center

EPIC, Inc.

Family Programs Hawaii

Family Support Hawaii

Friends of the Children of
West Hawaii

Hale Kipa, Inc.

Hale 'Opio Kauai, Inc.

Hawaii Children's Action
Network

Hawaii Student Television

Ho'ola Na Pua

Kahi Mohala

Kokua Kalihi Valley

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

PHOCUSED

Salvation Army Family

Intervention Services

Sex Abuse Treatment Center

Susannah Wesley Community
Center

The Catalyst Group

February 9, 2018

To: Representative Scott Nishimoto, Chair
And members of the Committee on Judiciary

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2364 HD1 RELATING TO HEALTH

Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports HB 2364 HD1 Relating to Health.

In 2014, the Hawaii Legislature enacted bills that defined beds in the Youth Correctional Facility as being for serious offenders only and allocated funds for mental health and substance abuse treatment.

Since then:

- The number of youth at Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility has declined to the lowest level ever – about 20 youth in a facility built for 60 that had 120 fifteen years ago;
- At the same time, the number of adolescents receiving services from the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division has increased; and,
- The number of youth in out-of-state residential treatment has increased. Youth are only placed out-of-state if there are no appropriate services available in Hawaii.

Each year, youth who participate in the Children and Youth Summit at the Capitol, identify priority needs and issues that they believe our legislators should address. In recent years, mental health services have been one of their top priorities. Youth tell us that they need:

- Access to mental health services without parental consent and notification;
- Increased school-based counseling services;
- Support groups;
- Peer mentoring programs

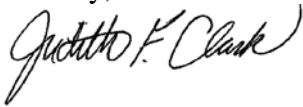
It is clear that increasing access to mental health and substance abuse treatment improves outcomes for youth in the juvenile justice system. Providing prevention and treatment services in portions of the facility no longer needed for court-sentenced youth makes sense.

HYSN has concerns about the accuracy of some of the information in the bill regarding youth crime and sex trafficking of youth, however:

1. So far as providers of outreach and other services to homeless youth can determine, the youth arrested for recent violent crimes in Waikiki were not homeless. Just because a youth hangs out in Waikiki at night, does not mean that he or she does not have a home that they can and do return to.
2. Only 5% of juvenile arrests in Hawaii involve some form of intimidation or use of weapons. This does not indicate that violent crime among our youth is a serious concern.
3. Only 13% of street youth who completed a 2016 survey stated that they had traded sex for food, money, drugs, or a place to sleep. Much of this sexual activity is what is known as “survival sex”, when a young person trades sexual favors for something that they need to meet their basic survival needs. Sex trafficking involves coercing or controlling the victim through physical abuse or through threats (for example, threatening to kill a family member). Both result in trauma to the youth, but the needs and issues are different and require different kinds of services.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark, MPH
Executive Director

Helping Hawai'i Live Well

To: Representative Scott Nishimoto, Chair, Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair, Members, House Committee on Judiciary

From: Trisha Kajimura, Executive Director

Re: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2364, HD1 RELATING TO JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM

Hearing: February 13, 2018, 2:00 pm, CR 325

Thank you for hearing **HB 2364, HD1** which establishes the Kawailoa Youth and Family Wellness center and transforms the approach of juvenile justice to a therapeutic model.

Mental Health America of Hawaii is a 501(c)3 organization founded in Hawai'i 76 years ago, that serves the community by promoting mental health through advocacy, education and service. This bill supports the mental health of Hawaii's youth by offering them the opportunity to receive services that can help them to heal from past trauma and recover from mental illness that is most likely related to the cause of their involvement with the juvenile justice system. Investing in the mental health of these youth will help them to build the coping skills and emotional resources needed to transition successfully to the community, avoid future incarceration and hopefully thrive.

Hawaii is lacking in mental health and addiction treatment overall and particularly for youth. Adding this resource will be of tremendous benefit to at-risk youth in need.

Thank you for considering my **testimony in support of HB 2364, HD1**. Please contact me at trisha.kajimura@mentalhealthhawaii.org or (808)521-1846 if you have any questions.

HB-2364-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/10/2018 10:23:23 AM

Testimony for JUD on 2/13/2018 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dara Carlin, M.A.	Domestic Violence Survivor Advocate	Support	No

Comments:



Aloha Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair San Buenaventura and members of the House Committee on Judiciary,

The Young Progressives Demanding Action – Hawai‘i, representing nearly 600 registered members, **strongly supports** HB2364. We believe that transforming the approach of juvenile justice to a “therapeutic model” is exactly the sort of reform this state needs and, in fact, we hope that this approach can be replicated within the standard corrections system for adults as well. This model aligns with what activists have begun referring to as a “restorative justice” model. The restorative model stands opposite of a criminalization or punitive model, with incarceration and detention as its cornerstone policy—which is what Hawai‘i, and most of the country still adheres to, to its own detriment.

After decades of research and years of best-practice modeling in other jurisdictions, there can be no doubt whatsoever that a restorative justice model is cheaper, more effective at reducing crime, and more humane than the punitive model. There is no good reason not to implement restorative justice programming in our state, which can include substance abuse rehabilitation, victim/offender mediation, conferencing and dialog, peace-making circles, victim assistance and involvement, former prisoner assistance and involvement, reduction of DMI (Disparate Minority Incarceration), real restitution and community service via an expanded parole and probation program.

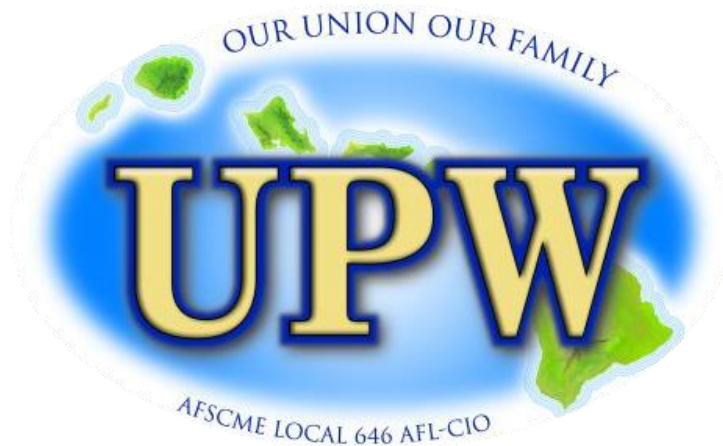
In Hawai‘i, where Hawaiian and Pacific Islander populations are dramatically over-represented in the criminal justice system, agricultural work programs and place-based, identity-rehabilitation programs are also important. These programs allow offenders a chance to reconnect with the land, traditional food systems and traditional cultural practices, something that is crucial to the framework of an established island identity. The loss of this identity is a major contributing factor to low education and job attainment levels, low health and wellness outcomes and, therefore, high rates of contact with the criminal justice system.

Providing this kind of justice opportunity, rather than justice condemnation, to young offenders is an excellent way to divert them away from further involvement in the criminal justice system. It gives them another chance to be productive, contributing members of society. Our young people are our future. How we deal with their mistakes—mistakes that any one of us could have made had we been in the same position of want and need that they often find themselves in—creates a lasting impression on these young people.

What sort of adults do we want them to become? Bitter, angry, confused, adrift and depressed? Or thoughtful, contemplative, self-aware, responsible and optimistic? We have the power to make a difference in the lives of these young people and to set them on a path of healing and restoration, instead of hopelessness and tragedy. Establishing a Youth and Family Wellness center is an excellent first step in deciding, as a society here in the Hawaiian archipelago, that we are committed to providing the best possible outcome for our underserved youth as we can and, therefore, the best possible future for all of us.

Mahalo for your support,

Will Caron
Social Justice Action Committee Chair
8083874920



The Hawaii State House of Representatives
The Twenty-Ninth Legislature
Regular Session of 2018

Committee on Judiciary

Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Chair
Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee

Date of Hearing: Tuesday, February 13, 2018
Time of Hearing: 2:00 p.m.
Place of Hearing: Conference Room 325, State Capitol

Testimony On HB2364 HD1 Relating to Juvenile Justice Reform

By Dayton M. Nakanelua,
State Director of the United Public Workers,
AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO

My name is Dayton M. Nakanelua, State Director of the United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO. The UPW is the exclusive representative for approximately 12,000 public employees, which include blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 01 and institutional, health and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and the four counties.

HB2364 HD1 proposes to establish the Kawaihoa Youth and Family Wellness Center and transform the approach of juvenile justice to the therapeutic model. The UPW comments are directed at the lack of training plans at the Youth Correctional Facilities to operate the Kawaihoa Youth and Family Wellness Center. The UPW strongly objects to contracting out any services that are performed by BU-01 and BU-10 employees and request that this bill be amended to include the training and integration of the BU-01 and BU-10 employees in this proposed change.

The UPW requests that the status of the BU-01 and BU-10 employees related to the Kawaihoa Youth and Family Wellness Center be clearly articulated and written. We remind the HYCF officials that the collective bargaining agreement states, "Specific training programs shall be developed in consultation between the Union and the Employer". The UPW opposes the bill as written without training plans.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit this testimony.

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

P.O. Box 37158, Honolulu, HI 96837-0158

Phone/E-Mail: (808) 927-1214 / kat.caphi@gmail.com

LATE



COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Rep. Scott Nishimoto, Chair

Rep. Joy SanBuenaventura, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

2:00 pm

Room 325

SUPPORT - HB 2364 - KAWAIILOA YOUTH & FAMILY WELLNESS CENTER

Aloha Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair SanBuenaventura and Members of the Committee!

My name is Kat Brady and I am the Coordinator of Community Alliance on Prisons, a community initiative promoting smart justice policies in Hawai'i for more than two decades. This testimony is respectfully offered on behalf of the families of Ashley Grey, Daisy Kasitati, Joey O'Malley, Jessica Fortson and all the people who have died under the "care and custody" of the state as well as the approximately 5,500 Hawai'i individuals living behind bars or under the "care and custody" of the Department of Public Safety on any given day. We are always mindful that approximately 1,600 Hawai'i's imprisoned people are serving their sentences abroad thousands of miles away from their loved ones, their homes and, for the disproportionate number of incarcerated Kanaka Maoli, far, far from their ancestral lands.

HB 2364 establishes the Kawaiiloa Youth and Family Wellness center and transforms the approach of juvenile justice to a therapeutic model.

Community Alliance on Prisons supports Hawai'i changing its approach to youth justice to a public health-focused model. This is a very ambitious project and we look forward to more specific information being publicly available. We checked out the OYS website, but could not find information about the Kawaiiloa Youth and Family Wellness Center there.

Research has shown making the shift from a punitive system to a rehabilitative one that cares about the youth being served, has a tremendous and sometimes life-long effect on the person. When we start WORKING WITH our youth rather than WORKING ON them, we create an environment of caring, this is what allows change to happen. This is what our youth need. Open minds, caring hearts, and community support to guide them through this information-overloaded world.

We respect the work of the Hawai'i Youth Services Network and hope that the bill is amended with the research they provided at the end of their testimony to correct some assertions made in Section 1. Mahalo for this opportunity to support positive change for our youth.

Young people need models, not critics

John Wooden

LATE

HB-2364-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 6:45:04 PM

Testimony for JUD on 2/13/2018 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gary Wiseman	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I live on Uluhaku Place in the Olomana Subdivision. My property is adjacent to the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility (HYCF). I know most of my neighbors on this little cul de sac and we are concerned over potential future growth of this facility.

I support the intent of this bill to provide needed services for the youth of Hawaii. Locating this Center in an underutilized building makes sense.

My concern is the bill does not clearly state what sort of renovations need to be made to the existing HYCF to be able to house this new Center. Will it just be internal renovations? Or is a massive addition to the HYCF being considered? Please amend the bill to address this concern.

Please be reminded that there is an existing prohibition that was enacted over 30 years ago that prohibits new construction above a certain elevation along the slopes of Mount Olomana. My memory is that the HYCF is right at that elevation.

On behalf of my neighbors, I request that we residents of Uluhaku Place be included as stake holders in any future building plans in the vicinity of the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility.

Also, the chain link security fence that protects our homes from escaping youth is over 30 years old, rusting in many locations and badly needs replacing. So, I request that you include funding for replacing this fence.

I look forward to watching this bill progress through the legislative session.

Sincerely,

Gary Wiseman

LATE

HB-2364-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/13/2018 2:25:49 PM

Testimony for JUD on 2/13/2018 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
amanda mundon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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

Bay Clinic

Big Brothers Big Sisters of
Hawaii

Bobby Benson Center

Child and Family Service

Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii

Domestic Violence Action Center

EPIC, Inc.

Family Programs Hawaii

Family Support Hawaii

Friends of the Children of
West Hawaii

Hale Kipa, Inc.

Hale 'Opio Kauai, Inc.

Hawaii Children's Action
Network

Hawaii Student Television

Ho'ola Na Pua

Kahi Mohala

Kokua Kalihi Valley

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

PHOCUSED

Salvation Army Family

Intervention Services

Sex Abuse Treatment Center

Susannah Wesley Community
Center

The Catalyst Group

February 9, 2018

To: Representative Scott Nishimoto, Chair
And members of the Committee on Judiciary

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2364 HD1 RELATING TO JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM

Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports HB 2364 HD1 Relating to Juvenile Justice Reform.

In 2014, the Hawaii Legislature enacted bills that defined beds in the Youth Correctional Facility as being for serious offenders only and allocated funds for mental health and substance abuse treatment.

Since then:

- The number of youth at Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility has declined to the lowest level ever – about 20 youth in a facility built for 60 that had 120 fifteen years ago;
- At the same time, the number of adolescents receiving services from the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division has increased; and,
- The number of youth in out-of-state residential treatment has increased. Youth are only placed out-of-state if there are no appropriate services available in Hawaii.

Each year, youth who participate in the Children and Youth Summit at the Capitol, identify priority needs and issues that they believe our legislators should address. In recent years, mental health services have been one of their top priorities. Youth tell us that they need:

- Access to mental health services without parental consent and notification;
- Increased school-based counseling services;
- Support groups;

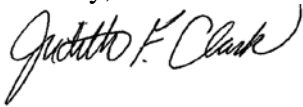
It is clear that increasing access to mental health and substance abuse treatment improves outcomes for youth in the juvenile justice system. Providing prevention and treatment services in portions of the facility no longer needed for court-sentenced youth makes sense.

HYSN has concerns about the accuracy of some of the information in the bill regarding youth crime and sex trafficking of youth, however:

1. So far as providers of outreach and other services to homeless youth can determine, the youth arrested for recent violent crimes in Waikiki were not homeless. Just because a youth hangs out in Waikiki at night, does not mean that he or she does not have a home that they can and do return to.
2. Only 5% of juvenile arrests in Hawaii involve some form of intimidation or use of weapons. This does not indicate that violent crime among our youth is a serious concern.
3. Only 13% of street youth who completed a 2016 survey stated that they had traded sex for food, money, drugs, or a place to sleep. Much of this sexual activity is what is known as “survival sex”, when a young person trades sexual favors for something that they need to meet their basic survival needs. Sex trafficking involves coercing or controlling the victim through physical abuse or through threats (for example, threatening to kill a family member). Both result in trauma to the youth, but the needs and issues are different and require different kinds of services.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark, MPH
Executive Director