

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2391
RELATING TO THE UNIFORM CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT

by
Nolan P. Espinda, Director
Department of Public Safety

House Committee on Health and Human Services
Representative John M. Mizuno, Chair
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

Friday, February 9, 2018; 8:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 329

Chair Mizuno, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and Members of the Committee:

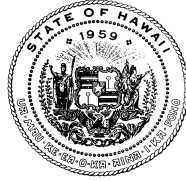
The Department of Public Safety (PSD) **supports** House Bill (SB) 2391, which proposes to amend chapter 329-104(c) of the Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), to allow the PSD Narcotics Enforcement Division (NED) Administrator to disclose, at his/her discretion, confidential information from the Electronic Prescription Accountability System, more commonly known as the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP), to authorized employees of the Department of Health (DOH) Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division and the Emergency Medical and Injury Prevention Systems Branch.

PSD has collaborated closely with DOH and other government and private stakeholders to create Hawai'i's "Opioid Action Plan." As part of this action plan, stakeholders agreed that PDMP information sharing between PSD and DOH would provide DOH with information to better protect the community by allowing public health surveillance and decreasing harm reduction. Also, the Opioid Action Plan calls for a balanced approach involving effective treatment, prevention, and law enforcement to combat opioid abuse in Hawai'i. The sharing of data between law

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enforcement and public health officials, as proposed in HB 2391, exemplifies this approach.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.



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**Testimony in SUPPORT of H.B. 2391
RELATING TO THE UNIFORM CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT**

REPRESENTATIVE JOHN M. MIZUNO, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Hearing Date: February 9, 2018

Room Number: 329

1 **Fiscal Implications:** None

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) **strongly supports** H.B. 2391 and
3 its companion S.B. 2818. These bills support and enhance the coordinated efforts undertaken by
4 the Department of Public Safety (PSD), Narcotics Enforcement Division (NED) and the DOH to
5 implement a balanced and coordinated public safety/public health strategy to address opioid and
6 other substance abuse issues in our state. The bills allow the NED administrator to disclose, at
7 his discretion, confidential information from the Electronic Prescription Accountability System,
8 more commonly known as the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP), to authorized
9 employees of the DOH Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division (ADAD) and the Emergency Medical
10 Services and Injury Prevention Systems Branch (EMSIPSB).

11 The PDMP is a unique resource that provides a picture of health care opioid prescribing
12 and pharmacy dispensing practices and patterns in Hawaii. Increased access to the prescription
13 database will greatly inform the DOH's Strategic Plan for preventing opioid addiction and
14 overdose.

15 More than 150 Hawaii residents die from drug overdoses each year. Nearly half of these
16 deaths involve prescription opioids. Fatal drug overdose is now the leading cause of injury-
17 related deaths in the state, surpassing those from motor vehicle crashes and falls. Prevention and
18 treatment of this problem are top priorities for the Governor. The Hawaii Opioid and Substance
19 Misuse Initiative (Initiative) brought together a wide range of legislators, state and county
20 officials, law enforcement and first responders, health care professionals and other citizens to

1 work together to develop and implement a plan to reduce prescription opioid abuse and deaths
2 from overdose. H.B. 2391 is intended to fulfill Objective 3-1 of the Hawaii Opioid Action Plan
3 (Plan) developed by the Initiative. The full Plan is available at:
4 <https://health.hawaii.gov/substance-abuse/files/2013/05/The-Hawaii-Opioid-Initiative.pdf>.

5 Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



HB2391 Disclosure to DOH

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES:

- Representative John Mizuno, Chair; Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
- Friday, February 9th, 2018: 8:30 am
- Conference Room 329

HAWAII SUBSTANCE ABUSE COALITION (HSAC) Supports HB2391:

GOOD MORNING CHAIR, VICE CHAIR AND DISTINGUISHED COMMITTEE MEMBERS. My name is Alan Johnson. I am the current chair of the Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition (HSAC), a statewide hui of almost 40 alcohol and drug treatment and prevention agencies.

We look to the Department of Health to coordinated data plans on opioid exposures and overdoses including guidance about how data is collected, synthesized and disseminated for substance use and misuse that is useful for determining policy for the state and meaningful analysis by program managers.

Data informed decision making will help improve systems and promote collaborative responses to address the opioid use disorder crisis in Hawaii as well as across the nation.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony and are available for questions.

HB-2391

Submitted on: 2/7/2018 1:06:02 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/9/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sione Naeata	Bobby Benson Center	Support	No

Comments: