



SB1304 SD1
RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIANS
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

February 23, 2018

8:30 a.m.

Room 211

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) offers the following **COMMENTS** on SB1304 SD1, which seeks to implement recommendations of the Native Hawaiian Healthcare Task Force through the creation of a multi-disciplinary Native Hawaiian Health Advisory Council.

OHA's strategic priorities include Maui Ola (Health), which represents our commitment to improve the quality of life of Native Hawaiians, by reducing the onset of chronic diseases and of obesity in particular. In furtherance of this priority, and in line with Act 155 (Reg. Sess. 2014) and Hawai'i Revised Statutes Section 226-20, we support a "social determinants of health" approach to health policy, that takes a holistic and systemic view in addressing health in Hawai'i's communities. Research shows that Native Hawaiians continue to have disparate outcomes compared to the rest of the state population, with Native Hawaiians having the highest prevalence of most chronic diseases like asthma, obesity, and diabetes, compared to the state population.¹ These health disparities are correlated with disparities in areas recognized as social determinants of health, such as housing, education, social services, leisure, individual rights, culture, and public safety. For example, in addition to having poorer health outcomes Native Hawaiians have much lower median family income despite higher participation in the labor force.² Accordingly, eliminating social disparities and achieving health equity for Native Hawaiians through a social determinants of health approach is a key component of OHA's Maui Ola activities.

As part of our commitment to Maui Ola, OHA participated and helped to fund the Native Hawaiian Health Task Force described in this measure. OHA notes that the recommendations in the Task Force's report represent the work of 27 agencies and individuals from a broad range of fields. **OHA therefore appreciates that the establishment of a Native Hawaiian Health Advisory Council and a directory of Native Hawaiian community leaders for relevant, Governor-appointed positions has the potential to positively address Native Hawaiian social determinants of health, as suggested by the Task Force's report and this measure.**

¹ See OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS, NATIVE HAWAIIAN HEALTH FACT SHEET 2015 VOL. I, CHRONIC DISEASE, available at <https://www.oha.org/wp-content/uploads/Volume-I-Chronic-Diseases-FINAL.pdf>.

² See OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS, INCOME INEQUALITY IN THE WAKE OF THE GREAT RECESSION (2016) available at <https://www.oha.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/Income-Inequality-and-Native-Hawaiian-Communities-in-the-Wake-of-the-Great-Recession-2005-2013.pdf>.

OHA does note that Act 155 (2014) already requires all state agencies to address the social determinants of health of Native Hawaiians and other communities as part of their planning and programs. We look forward to continuing to work with the agencies and the Council should SB1304 SD1 pass.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

SB-1304-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2018 7:42:08 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/23/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
De MONT R. D. CONNER	Testifying for Ho'omanapono Political Action Committee (HPAC)	Support	Yes

Comments:

We STRONGLY SUPPORT this bill. Mahalo.

SB-1304-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2018 8:16:58 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/23/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.	Testifying for Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha chairs and committee members.

The Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu OPPOSES this measure to create a Hawaiian health advisory board when Papa Ola LÅ• kahi has been fulfilling that role since 1998. Papa Ola LÅ• kahi has been the lead in community health, community based research, disseminating data and census information, protecting Hawaiian healing traditions, building a workforce of Hawaiian doctors, nurses and other health professionals, and implementing programs and services for Hawaiian community. It has demonstrated its ability to work effectively to move policy that is pono for Hawaiians. And deferring this bill will save the State money. Mahalo.



Hui Mālama Ola Nā 'Ōiwi

Community Health Education Services

**Senate Committee on Ways & Means
Sen. Donovan M. DelaCruz, Chair
Sen. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice-Chair**

**Opposed to
SB 1304 - Relating to Native Hawaiians**
February 22, Thursday, 10:10 a.m., Conference Room 211, State Capitol

Greetings:

Hui Mālama Ola Nā 'Ōiwi opposes the passage of SB 1304 to create and establish a Native Hawaiian Health Advisory Council in the office of Health Equity to provide guidance to the Governor and Legislature on issues that impact Native Hawaiian health matters.

We oppose this Bill since the Native Hawaiian Health Care Improvement Act was established by Congress in 1988 to address health issues for Native Hawaiians and since the creation of five (5) Native Hawaiian Health Care Systems on each island: Hawai'i Island, Maui, O'ahu, Kauai, Molokai and Lanai, provides health care services, respectively.

The creation of another advisory council only duplicates and complicates the work we have been doing for more than 30 years.

Mahalo for the opportunity to offer comments relating to SB 1304.

Sincerely,

Louis Hao
Executive Director

Live Longer & Feel Better, Together.

• 1438 Kīlauea Avenue Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • **Phone:** (808) 969-9220 • **Fax:** (808) 961-4794 • HMONO.org •

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Submitted on: 2/22/2018 1:48:19 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/23/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for OCC Legislative Priorities Committee, Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted on: 2/22/2018 9:33:57 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/23/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kamahanahokulani Farrar	Testifying for Na Pu'uwai	Oppose	No

Comments:

February 22, 2018

Aloha chairs and committee members:

Papa Ola LÅ• kahi has functioned as a state-wide Hawaiian health advisory board since 1998. Papa Ola LÅ• kahi has been the lead in community health, community based research, disseminating data and census information, protecting Hawaiian healing traditions, building a workforce of Hawaiian doctors, nurses and other health professionals, and implementing programs and services for Hawaiian community. It has demonstrated its ability to work effectively to move policy that is pono for Hawaiians.

I oppose SB1304 to create a Hawaiian health advisory board, deferring this bill would ensure we are not duplicating services and would ultimately save the State money.

Respectfully submitted,

Kamahanahokulani Farrar, MHRM

Executive Director, Na Pu'uwai

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Kaunakakai, Hawaii 96748



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February 23, 2018

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Testimony in **Opposition** to SB SB 1304 SD1.
Relating to Native Hawaiians
Friday, February 23, 2018, 10:30 am Room 211

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill. Our organization remains opposed to this legislation as it is duplicative of an existing federally mandated organization by an act of Congress. That organization is Papa Ola Lokahi deemed so by the Native Hawaiian Health Care Improvement act. This organization since 1988 has been responsible for Hawaiian Health policy both on the state and federal levels.

The Native Hawaiian Health Care Systems for which Ho'ola Lahui Hawaii is for Kauai County looks to the leadership and member organizations of Papa Ola Lokahi to advocate for the health needs of Native Hawaiian Communities

We remain steadfast in our opposition to this bill and support the role of Papa Ola Lokahi to be the advisory body to the state in matters of Native Hawaiian Health.

Sincerely,

David Peters
Ho`ola Lahui Hawaii

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Submitted on: 2/21/2018 1:43:54 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/23/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted on: 2/21/2018 1:13:19 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/23/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rachel L. Kailianu	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: