



Aloha chair nishihara, vice chair wakai, and members of the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs,

The Young Progressives Demanding Action – Hawai‘i **strongly support** both SB 2858 & SB 2861. Both of these bills are steps toward accountability and transparency when dealing with corrections and the criminal justice system. People who are committed to this system are stripped of certain rights because they have been deemed to have violated some part of the social contract. They are also locked away from sight and mind of the public, physically, emotionally and mentally cut off from their loved ones and advocates. As a result, they are particularly vulnerable to civil and human rights violations.

The overall direction this committee is leading the State of Hawai‘i when it comes to criminal justice reform is good. Many of the bills that have been introduced this session give us hope. In particular, bills aimed at assessing and reforming pretrial and effective incarceration practices must be supported. However, without specific data, task forces currently looking at both avenues of reform will continue to be limited in their ability to formulate good recommendations on policy for this committee to act on.

Even basic information, like the demographics of our jail and prison population and the cost of incarceration, are only available upon request and are difficult to acquire from the department. More and more states are adopting data-driven approaches to incarceration to implement truly best practices in reducing rates of recidivism, taxpayer costs, and to improve the safety of their communities. And their progress has been well-documented now. Hawai‘i should join this “smart justice” approach and implement a comprehensive data collection system. This information must be made publicly available. These bills will help the state to develop sound policies that improve our communities, improve safety, and promote justice, and we ask that you support both and pass them through committee today.

Mahalo,

Will Caron

Social Justice Action Committee Chair
Young Progressives Demanding Action – Hawai‘i

SB-2858

Submitted on: 1/28/2018 7:27:51 PM

Testimony for PSM on 1/30/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Henry Curtis	Life of the Land	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass this impotant bill on metrics.

Mahalo

Henry Curtis

Executive Director

Life of the Land

SB-2858

Submitted on: 1/29/2018 12:19:14 PM

Testimony for PSM on 1/30/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
E. Ileina Funakoshi		Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Senators Nishihara (Chair), Wakai (Vice Chair) and Committee members

Thank you for hearing SB2858. This bill is sorely needed and the intent is good, but i'm not quite sure of some aspects of the bill.

I will be attending the meeting.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit my testimony.

Aloha and a hui hou,

e. ileina funakoshi