

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**  
P. O. Box 3378  
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378  
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**Testimony in SUPPORT of SCR11 SD1**

Urging the Department of Education, Department of Health, Department of Human Services and Judiciary to Permanently Establish and Participate in the Hawaii Interagency State Youth Network of Care to Better Serve Youth and Families with Complex Needs in the State.

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

Hearing Date: Thursday, April 12, 2018      Room Number: 329

1    **Fiscal Implications:** No new funds are requested. This collaboration is jointly supported within  
2    the partners' existing resources.

3    **Department Testimony:** The purpose of this resolution is to encourage the Department of  
4    Education, Department of Health, Department of Human Services and the Judiciary to  
5    permanently establish and participate in the Hawaii Interagency State Youth Network of Care to  
6    better serve youth with complex needs and their families across the state. The Hawaii  
7    Interagency State Youth Network of Care ("HISYNC") committee is comprised of high-level  
8    representatives from the Department of Education, Department of Health, Department of Human  
9    Services and the Judiciary. HISYNC works to ensure that Hawaii's child-serving system is well-  
10   aligned and coordinated to help youth with multi-agency, complex needs and their families. In  
11   order to effectuate this goal, the committee aligns policies and programs to better serve Hawaii's  
12   children; assembles cross-system datasets to assess whether the state's child-serving agencies are  
13   achieving their missions and desired outcomes; and serves as a multi-agency forum where  
14   particularly complicated or troublesome cases can be brought forward for coordinated treatment  
15   planning.

16   The Hawaii Interagency Local Youth Network of Care committees ("HILYNCS") are  
17   local/regionally-based multi-agency committees that are comprised of similar child-serving

1 agencies as the state committee, but are primarily focused on furthering cross-system  
2 collaboration at the local level.

3 The Department of Health has taken a leadership role in the development of the HISYNC and  
4 HILYNC committees. The HISYNC group is co-chaired by the Division Administrator of the  
5 Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division, and leaders from three other divisions:  
6 Developmental Disabilities (DDD), Early Intervention, and Alcohol and Drug Abuse (ADAD)  
7 are attending regularly, along with the Deputy Director for Behavioral Health or her  
8 representative. As a result, the Department strongly supports passage of this resolution, which  
9 would provide legislative validation of these efforts.

10 Mechanisms that further state-level and local-level collaboration are vital to ensure a well-  
11 coordinated system of care. Families of youth with complex needs frequently suffer because of  
12 the need to involve a number of state agencies and the lack of options for integrated care. A  
13 seamless system of care has numerous positive outcomes for children and youth, including  
14 improvements in school attendance and grades; increases in stable living situations; and  
15 decreases in behavioral health challenges, suicide rates, substance use, and juvenile justice  
16 involvement. The HISYNC and the HILYNC committees enhance Hawaii's system of care by  
17 ensuring that policies, programs and services are better coordinated for youth with complex  
18 needs and their families. Encouraging state agencies to send representatives to the HISYNC and  
19 HILYNC committees will ensure alignment of the child-serving system and help develop more  
20 opportunities for youth and families across the state to receive the coordinated care they deserve.

21 Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

**RECEIVED**  
**Date & Time**  
Apr 12, 2018, 8:47 am

**LATE**

DR. CHRISTINA M. KISHIMOTO  
SUPERINTENDENT



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

**Date:** 04/12/2018  
**Time:** 10:00 AM  
**Location:** 329  
**Committee:** House Health and Human  
Services

**Department:** Education

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

**Title of Resolution:** SCR 011, SD1 URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION,  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES,  
AND JUDICIARY TO PERMANENTLY ESTABLISH AND  
PARTICIPATE IN THE HAWAII INTERAGENCY STATE YOUTH  
NETWORK OF CARE TO BETTER SERVE YOUTH AND FAMILIES  
WITH COMPLEX NEEDS IN THE STATE.

**Purpose of  
Resolution:**

**Department's Position:**

The Department of Education (Department) supports SCR 11, SD1 to permanently establish the Hawaii Interagency State Youth Network of Care.

The Department is committed to our continued interagency work and collaboration with the Departments of Health and Human Services, and the Judiciary to best support the needs of Hawaii's most vulnerable children and families.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SCR 011, SD1.

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](http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org).

# 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](mailto: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

April 10, 2018

To: Representative John Mizuno, Chair,  
And members of the Committee on Health and Human Services

**TESTIMONY IN ASTRONG SUPPORT OF SCR 11 SD 1/SD 1  
URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT  
OF HUMAN SERVICES, AND JUDICIARY TO PERMANENTLY  
ESTABLISH AND PARTICPATE IN THE HAWAII INTERAGENCY  
STATE YOUTH NETWORK OF CARE TO BETTER SERVE YOUTH  
AND FAMILIES WITH COMPLEX CARE NEEDS IN THE STATE**

Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, strongly supports SCR 11 SD 1

The Hawaii Interagency State Youth Network of Care (HI-SYNC) is a group of professionals from child-serving agencies and organizations who work collaboratively to improve child wellness in all its dimensions.

HI-SYNC is focused on improving outcomes for children, youth and families

- Through continuous review and analysis of data to identify areas for system improvement,
- The recommendation of policies to address system barriers, collaboration, coordination, integration of services and resources,
- Planning on joint treatment and management of specific cases, and,
- Problem-solving around multi-agency challenges.

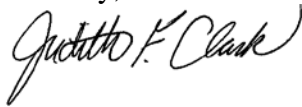
What do we mean by complex care needs? Imagine a youth who is in foster care because he was sexually abused by a family member. He is receiving mental health services from Dept. of Health; is enrolled in special education due to a learning disability; and is on juvenile probation due to violent behavior toward another student. How do families negotiate this complex system of care? How do the multiple organizations providing services ensure that services are coordinated, and needs are met?

On the local level, HI-SYNC ensures that the needs of individual children and families are addressed. State-level participants work together to address policy and legal barriers that impede delivery of high quality services.

HI-SYNC is a dynamic and effective effort to improve quality and coordination of services to our children and youth.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judith F. Clark". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "C".

Judith F. Clark, MPH  
Executive Director

**SCR-11-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 10:29:17 PM

Testimony for HHS on 4/12/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

To the Honorable John M. Mizuno, Chair; to the Honorable Bertrand Kobayahsi, Vice Chair; and the Members of the Committee on Health and Human Services:

Good morning. My name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") Legislative Priorities Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on **SCR11 SD1** relating to the Department of Education, Department of Health, Department of Human Services, and Judiciary and the goals of the Child and Adolescent Service System Program.

The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of **SCR11 SD1** and strongly supports its passage.

**SCR11 SD1** is in accord with the Democratic Platform as the Department of Education, Department of Health, Department of Human Services, and Judiciary under the Hawaii Interagency State Youth Network of Care (HISYNC), in collaboration with other state agencies, develop a system of care for children, youth, and families to (1) promote the development of a wide array of services to meet the needs of identified children; (2) integrate multiple services into a well-coordinated system of care to make sure children are receiving the most appropriate services; and (3) increase the ability of parents and professionals to work together for the benefit of the children.

The DPH Platform states that "[w]e believe that all families should have an equal opportunity to build their assets and become self-sufficient; and we support a strong safety net of programs that will afford them the opportunity to do so. We must protect our children, our future, from violence and neglect and provide them with a safe and healthy environment in which to grow and thrive.

We support initiatives that enhance access and equity in education, employment, and business opportunities intended to lift families and individuals out of

poverty and remove existing barriers to equal opportunity in our communities." (Platform of the DPH, P.4, Lines 184-191(2016)).

Given that **SCR11 SD1** supports the Department of Education, Department of Health, Department of Human Services, and Judiciary under the Hawaii Interagency State Youth Network of Care's (HISYNC) in developing a system of care for children, youth, and families it is the position of the OCC Legislative Priorities Committee to strongly support this measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC Legislative Priorities Committee

Email: legislativepriorities@gmail.com, Text/tel.: (808) 258-8889