

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

March 21, 2018

TO: The Honorable Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services

The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senate Committee on Education

The Honorable Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

FROM: Pankaj Bhanot, Director

SUBJECT: **SCR 11/SR 10 – 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.**

Hearing: Friday, March 23, 2018, 2:45 p.m.
Conference Room 229, State Capitol

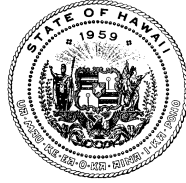
DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports these resolutions. DHS is committed to continue to work together to improve systems and processes to address the complex needs of Hawaii's children and families, especially those children involved in multiple systems. DHS Child Welfare Services (CWS) Branch, and the Med-QUEST Division (MQD) have been participating partners with the Hawaii Interagency State Youth Network of Care (HI-SYNC), and recognizes the value of consistent collaboration among child-serving agencies of the state to best meet the needs of the children, youth, and families served by these systems.

As a department, DHS serves one in four of Hawaii's residents and nearly half of its children. The programs we implement supports residents' ability to achieve well-being in a

holistic sense. We address key elements of well-being such as financial assistance, access to insurance coverage and healthcare, access to food and nutrition, child care and early childhood learning opportunities, public housing, homelessness, juvenile justice, support services for families experiencing domestic violence, protective services for children and vulnerable adults, and employment opportunities and vocational rehabilitation for people with disabilities.

We are working diligently to incorporate 'Ohana Nui, a multigenerational framework that invests early and concurrently in children and families within our department, with other state agencies, and with community stakeholders, to improve health, education, employment, and other outcomes for Hawaii residents. This approach will allow us to more efficiently align programs and funding to make a greater impact on the whole person and the whole family.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this bill.



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

Testimony in SUPPORT of SCR0011

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.

SENATOR JOSH GREEN, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

SENATOR MICHELLE N. KIDANI, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

Hearing Date: March 23, 2018, 2:45 p.m. Room Number: 229

- 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

1 particularly complicated or troublesome cases can be brought forward for coordinated treatment
2 planning.

3 The Hawaii Interagency Local Youth Network of Care committees (“HILYNCS”) are
4 local/regionally-based multi-agency committees that are comprised of similar child-serving
5 agencies as the state committee, but are primarily focused on furthering cross-system
6 collaboration at the local level.

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

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

25 Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



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

Date: 03/23/2018

Time: 02:45 PM

Location: 229

Committee: Senate Human Services
Senate Education
Senate Commerce, Consumer Protection,
and Health

Department: Education

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

Title of Resolution: SCR 011 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 011 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.

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.

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

March 20, 2018

To: Senator Josh Green , Chair
And members of the Committee on Human Services

Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair
And members of the Committee on Education

Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
And members of the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection
and Health

**TESTIMONY IN ASTRONG SUPPORT OF SCR 11/SR 10 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/SR 10

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 the multiple organizations providing services ensure that services are coordinated, and needs are met?

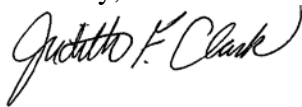
On the local level, HI-SYNC ensures that the needs of individual children and families are addressed. State-level participants work together to address policy and legal barriers that impede delivery of high quality services.

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

I regret that I am not able to be here today to testify in person. I, and several other members of HI-SYNC, am out on the Leeward Coast today, helping agencies there to form a local group to address complex care issues.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark, MPH
Executive Director

SCR-11

Submitted on: 3/21/2018 9:47:45 PM

Testimony for HMS on 3/23/2018 2:45:00 PM

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

Comments: