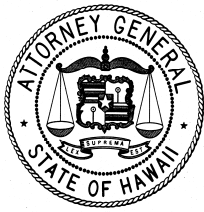


# HB 1468 HD2

Measure Title:	RELATING TO THE WAIANAE COAST COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CENTER.
Report Title:	DOH; Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center; Nanakuli High and Intermediate School; Appropriation (\$)
Description:	Appropriates moneys to the Department of Health to provide the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center with funding for an advanced practice registered nurse position and various infrastructure improvements for its school-based health center at Nanakuli High and Intermediate School. (HB1468 HD2)
Companion:	<a href="#">SB1437</a>
Package:	None
Current Referral:	CPH, WAM
Introducer(s):	ELI, CULLEN, JOHANSON, B. KOBAYASHI, MIZUNO



**TESTIMONY OF  
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE, 2019**

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**ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:**

H.B. NO. 1468, H.D. 2, RELATING TO THE WAIANAE COAST COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CENTER.

**BEFORE THE:**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

**DATE:** Wednesday, March 13, 2019      **TIME:** 9:00 a.m.

**LOCATION:** State Capitol, Room 229

**TESTIFIER(S):** Clare E. Connors, Attorney General, or  
Melissa J. Kolonie, Deputy Attorney General, or  
Angela A. Tokuda, Deputy Attorney General

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Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General provides the following comments.

The purpose of this bill is to appropriate moneys for fiscal years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 to the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center (WCCHC) for an unspecified number of full-time equivalent advanced practice registered nurse positions and various infrastructure improvements, including wi-fi connectivity and the purchase and maintenance of small equipment, for the continued operation of WCCHC's school-based health center located at Nanakuli High and Intermediate School.

As currently written, the means identified in this bill for the State to expend the funds appears to violate article VII, section 4, of the Hawaii Constitution. That section provides, in part, that "[n]o grant of public money or property shall be made except pursuant to standards provided by law." Chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), prescribes the standards for the grant award or appropriation of state funds to a specified recipient.

Further, grants provided to an organization under chapter 42F, HRS, must be made to an organization "incorporated under the laws of the State". HRS § 42F-103(b)(1). This means that chapter 42F grants can only be awarded to a legal entity registered in the State of Hawaii. In this case, WCCHC as identified in this measure is the trade name of the legal entity, Waianae District Comprehensive Health and Hospital

Board, Incorporated. We recommend that, if the Waianae District Comprehensive Health and Hospital Board, Incorporated dba WCCHC, is eligible pursuant to the standards of chapter 42F, HRS, the Legislature appropriate the funds as a grant to the corporate entity dba WCCHC to achieve the goals intended by this bill in a future legislative session, as it appears the chapter 42F grant application deadline has passed.

Further, page 3, lines 4-6, states, “[t]he sums appropriated shall be expended by the department of health through a contract awarded pursuant to chapter 103F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for the purposes of this Act.” However, pursuant to section 103F-101(a)(1), HRS, chapter 103F does not apply to “[c]ontracts to award grants of state funds appropriated by the legislature to a specific organization or individual”. It is our understanding that neither the Department of Education (DOE) nor the Department of Health (DOH) has a Health and Human Services Contract with WCCHC. Rather, the relationship between DOE and WCCHC was established by a Memorandum of Agreement. As such, if the Legislature were to appropriate moneys to the DOE for the purposes of the Memorandum of Agreement, the appropriation would violate article VII, section 4, of the Hawaii Constitution because it would not be made pursuant to standards provided by law.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

**HB-1468-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 7:01:59 AM

Testimony for CPH on 3/13/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ann Mahi	Testifying for Hawaii Dept of Education	Support	No

Comments:

As the Complex Area Superintendent of Nanakuli-Waianae, I strongly support HB 1468 HD 2 request for funding for the School Based Health Center (SBHC) at Nanakuli High and Intermediate School (NHIS). We have been working collaboratively to address the health issues of our students and to provide them the opportunity to learn how to be responsible for their physical health needs through the services of the SBHC. This is being accomplished through the presence of WCCHC staff at the SBHC. There are still some infrastructure costs and additional staffing needed to fully address not only physical health but also the mental health and behavioral concerns that are being identified by school administration, counselors and in some cases the students themselves.

Parents have expressed their appreciation of the SBHCs on our secondary campuses as it provides a means to address both physical and mental health concerns immediately. This allows proactive measures in keeping our students in school and ongoing support for monitoring asthma, diabetes and obesity which are major health issues in our community.

There has been an increase in requests for social-emotional and mental health services by our students and the prevention of serious consequences of depression and self harm are of great concern to us. I would like to recommend that the 1 FTE APRN be changed to 1 FTE Licensed Clinical Psychologist to support the social emotional well-being of our students at NHIS. The Waianae High School and the Waianae Intermediate School SBHCs both have access to a Licensed Clinical Psychologist and have been able to address mental health issues that keep our students in school, in class and learning.

We are a committed partner with the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center in supporting and providing comprehensive health services to our students in Nanakuli-Waianae. Please provide this much needed support for our community.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Ann Mahi, Complex Area Superintendent, Nanakuli-Waianae





**WAIANAЕ COAST  
COMPREHENSIVE  
HEALTH CENTER**  
[www.wcchc.com](http://www.wcchc.com)

**March 11, 2019**

**Testimony to the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health  
Wednesday, March 13, 2019, 9:00am, Conference Room 229**

**Re: Support of HB 1468 H.D.2 Relating to the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center (Supporting School Based Health Center Services at Nanakuli High and Intermediate School)**

**Submitted By: Dr. Vija Sehgal, Chief Quality Officer, Dir. of School Based Health Services, Pediatrician, Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center**

**Aloha Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Members of the Committee:**

The Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center (WCCHC) is grateful for the opportunity to testify on behalf of HB 1468 H.D.2 providing support to School Based Health Center (SBHC) services provided by the health center to Nanakuli High and Intermediate School (NHIS).

WCCHC has operated two SBHC since 2016, one each at Waianae High and Waianae Intermediate schools. A \$600,000 Federal Health Resources and Service Administration (HRSA) new access point grant assisted with our ability to open these two SBHC

In August 2018, responding to requests from the community, as well as an invitation from NHIS administrators, WCCHC opened its third SBHC on the campus of NHIS. Recognizing the high need for primary care and behavioral health services in this primarily Native Hawaiian population, we did so without the benefit of any Federal funding.

Our experience has demonstrated that SBHC improve access to comprehensive health care for adolescents who would otherwise not seek care, or have their health conditions contribute to high absenteeism rates. Through December of last year, our SBHC has served 2,795 students through 6,620 visits, with 95% of students returning to class immediately after having been seen.

Our operational model is lean, with one APRN and one Clinic Manager staffing each clinic. Additionally, we provide Behavioral Health services by a Licensed Clinical Psychologist whose time is split between now three of our SBHC sites. Most of the students seen at SBHC are WCCHC patients. We bill for all services provided.

High risk behavior surveys and depression screens which are administered to every student seen at SBHC have demonstrated significant behavioral health needs. Depression and anxiety are common and substance abuse rates are high. Suicide risk is significant, with 15% of WHS students seen having hurt themselves on purpose and 13% having ever attempted suicide. Notable improvement has been shown in many individual cases after initiation of SBHC BH services. To date, 478 students have accessed BH services at SBHC through 1,567 encounters.

We are grateful for the DOE's support of this bill and agree with their recommendation of changing the bill's initial request of funding an APRN to instead fund a Licensed Clinical Psychologist to increase our ability to address mental health issues.

WCCHC requests \$200,000 per year to be appropriated to continue providing SBHC services, including expanding our behavioral health capacity, at NHIS.

Mahalo for your support of HB 1468 H.D.2.

Vija Sehgal MD, MPH, PhD  
Email: vsehgal@wcchc.com  
Chief Quality Officer  
Director Pediatric Services  
Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center  
86-260 Farrington Highway  
Waianae, HI 96792  
Ph. 808-282-6665

**HB-1468-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 7:36:43 AM

Testimony for CPH on 3/13/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Disa Hauge	Testifying for Wai'anae High School	Support	Yes

Comments:

March 12, 2019

To: Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair, Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

Re: Testimony in SUPPORT OF HB 1468 HD2: RELATING TO SCHOOL BASED HEALTH SERVICES

Submitted by: Disa Hauge, Principal, Wai'anae High School

Aloha Honorable Senators Baker, Chang and Committee members:

I am Disa Hauge, principal of Wai'anae High, and I am requesting your support of HB 1468 HD2: Relating to the Wai'anae Coast Comprehensive Health Center (WCCHC).

When I was a child in Wai'anae in the 1960s, we had a doctor in the community on Thursday afternoons; otherwise, because we had no public bus system, it was a drive to Waipahu or town. Many people went without care. Access to health care increased exponentially when the community advocated to establish the WCCHC, a federally-connected health center.

We are a school with a Wai'anae Coast Comprehensive Health Clinic satellite clinic on campus, and I can attest to the vital importance of providing students with access to care which enables them to minimize absences from school and gain access to Early College and extracurricular opportunities. Critically, our students' access to mental health treatment is also increased, particularly those at highest risk who need medication management.

It's normal for teenagers to test boundaries both at home and at school as they learn independence and grow into adulthood. What's dangerous is when students endure trauma and are depressed or angry because then they abuse substances to dull their pain. And as we know, all drug abuse does is complicate their pain.



Let me tell you about a pill problem we had last school year. Parents were frantic and brought us confiscated instagram pictures they saw of pill drug deals and asked us to help their kids. A recent graduate died in a horrific car accident that was linked to pills. We aggressively sought to put the dealers out of business, but we also realized that we had to address the core problem: that there was a demand for the supply.

We worked with WCCHC and their two Community Educators, both graduates of our high schools, to go into every classroom to educate our kids and give them tools to both resist and help. Overnight, kids started bringing in their friends to us to get help. We worked as school teams to get them into treatment or into counseling and to support them in finding hope and making their way to health. We couldn't have done this without the clinic as a resource.

What made the difference was a full spectrum of supports, from our teachers to school counselors to the School Based Behavioral Health Specialists to the APRNs and psychologist at the clinic. Having a psychologist on campus was and is critical for us to be able to respond immediately to the most severely impacted and at risk students.

Nā• nā• kuli students also need and deserve this range of supports. For the students in our moku to become caring, competent citizens in our community we need to be able to help them manage their pain by finding hope. Hope is not something we can dispense. Our kids have to work hard to acquire it by putting one foot in front of the other, being honest with themselves, taking responsibility. Our job is to set boundaries and be their critical questioner, to support them in processing their choices and moving towards health, both physically and psychologically. Nā• nā• kuli needs an APRN and/or a psychologist for this important work.

I ask for your support of HB 1468 HD2 and thank you for all that you do.

**HB-1468-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 8:34:36 AM

Testimony for CPH on 3/13/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Darin Piliialoha	Testifying for Nanakuli High & Intermediate School	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Sir or Madame:

Aloha and Good Morning. I am Darin Piliialoha, Principal of Nanakuli High & Intermediate School (NHIS). This year marks my 11th year as the Principal of NHIS. I have been a part of many initiatives and partnerships over the years that benefit our students. I believe this latest bill, HB1468 HD2, will enable the partnership between NHIS and the Wai'anae Coast Comprehensive Health Center (WCCHC) to flourish and grow like how it did at our neighboring secondary schools. I am in full support of HB1468 HD2 in its entirety.

NHIS is fortunate to be one of three secondary schools along the Wai'anae Coast to have a School-Based Health Center (SBHC) located on its campus. The SBHC concept has been in our coast schools since 2015. Our school is the last secondary school to open its doors on August 6, 2018.

It is well documented the importance of having a SBHC on a school campus. Having a fully functional SBHC on campus will allow the child and families immediately access comprehensive health services. The health and wellness of the student is primary and of utmost importance. Studies have shown that academic progress is directly connected to students being in school. The SBHC will allow a student to address their physical, emotional and behavioral needs immediately and get them back into the classroom. If it's left up to schedule an appointment at an off campus facility, any unattended or delayed response will have an immediate impact negatively on student achievement and success in the classroom.

Over the years NHIS has been and continue to be a good partner with WCCHC. We have partnered with them to do outreach programs or have our students participate in their training programs. I believe we have developed a strong relationship. This particular partnership between NHIS & WCCHC has always been one that we hold in the highest regard since it meets the needs of the whole child.

Mahalo for the opportunity to share my thoughts and my full support of HB1468 HD2. I know it will benefit our students and families. It will allow them to have immediate

access to comprehensive health services in a fully staffed and fully functional facility on my campus.



**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health  
Wednesday, March 13, 2019; 9:00 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**RE: SUPPORTING HOUSE BILL NO. 1468, HOUSE DRAFT 2, RELATING TO THE WAIANAE COAST COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CENTER.**

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Joint Committee:

The Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA) is a 501(c)(3) organization established to advocate for, expand access to, and sustain high quality care through the statewide network of Community Health Centers throughout the State of Hawaii. The HPCA **SUPPORTS** House Bill No. 1468, House Draft 2, RELATING TO THE WAIANAE COAST COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CENTER.

The bill, as received by your Committee, would:

- (1) Appropriate an unspecified amount of general funds for Fiscal Year 2019-2020, and the same amount in general funds for Fiscal Year 2020-2021, for the continued operation of the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center's (WCCHC's) school-based health center located at Nanakuli High and Intermediate School;
- (2) Clarify that the appropriation be used for an unspecified number of full-time equivalent advanced practice registered nurse positions and various infrastructure improvements, including wi-fi connectivity and the purchase and maintenance of small equipment;
- (3) Require the sums be expended by the DOH through a contract in accordance with Chapter 103F, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and
- (3) Take effect on July 1, 2050.

Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) provide desperately needed medical services at the frontlines in rural communities. Long considered champions for creating a more sustainable, integrated, and wellness-oriented system of health, FQHCs provide a more efficient, more effective and more comprehensive system of health.

**Testimony on House Bill No. 1468, House Draft 2**  
**Wednesday, March 13, 2019; 9:00 a.m.**  
**Page 2**

WCCHC has clearly demonstrated its leadership in serving the health needs of our most vulnerable populations. As such, the appropriation of funds to assist WCCHC most definitely will serve the public good.

By working with the Department of Education to establish school-based clinics at public schools situated near their facilities, WCCHC has proactively and creatively worked to improve the health care outcomes of not only the students of the Leeward Coast, but they have enhanced the quality of life for their families by providing intensive primary care services in a geographic location experiencing dire shortages of health care professionals. Clearly, WCCHC's school-based program is a beacon of hope for many of our most underprivileged citizens. Public support for this program is essential for the continuation of this vital operation.

For this reason, we urge your favorable consideration of this measure.

In advance, thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

**HB-1468-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 8:54:43 PM

Testimony for CPH on 3/13/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brett Kulbis	Testifying for Honolulu County Republican Party	Support	No

Comments:

March 10, 2019

RE: HB 1468 Relating to the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center

Aloha Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

My name is May Okihiro. I have been a pediatrician and clinical researcher at the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center (WCCHC) for almost 20 years now.

Children of the Waianae Coast have a very high risk for chronic diseases, such as diabetes, cardiovascular disease, asthma, and mental health disorders such as depression and anxiety. High risk behaviors including smoking, drug use, and unhealthy eating are common and exacerbate this risk. It is not surprising then that many teens do poorly in school and drop out before graduation. It is also not surprising that many in the community experience debilitating chronic diseases as younger adults.

The WCCHC School Based Health Centers (SBHC) at Waianae High School and Waianae Intermediate have proven their value. Since opening our WCCHC SBHC three years ago, the SBHC staff have cared for thousands of teens, identified numerous acute and chronic physical and mental health issues, and initiated and continued teen-centered care. Feedback from school administration, teen patients, and their parents, have indicated that the SBHC have improved access to very useful care which has enabled more kids to stay in school.

The requested funding will now enable WCCHC to move ahead with full time SBHC services at Nanakuli High and Intermediate School. We are confident that this one-time funding will enable WCCHC to expand services to a level that can then be sustained through other strategies.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide this testimony. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'May Okihiro', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

May Okihiro, MD MS

**HB-1468-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 9:07:13 AM

Testimony for CPH on 3/13/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lu Ann Faborito	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The WCCHC provides services throughout the westside to much needed patients. I strongly support efforts to kokua and help the health center as users of their services.



**HB-1468-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 1:59:35 PM

Testimony for CPH on 3/13/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
John Wataoka	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

House Bill No.1468

By: Madison Anderson and Jaycilyn Chun

Hello, my name is Jaycilyn Chun and I am an 8th grade student at Wai'anae Intermediate School. Hello, my name is Madison Anderson and I am also an 8th grade student at Wai'anae Intermediate School. We are here this morning to testify on behalf of House Bill number 1468 and Senate Bill 1437.

All school based health centers would benefit our students on the West Coast. Funding for one positional nurse will give Nanakuli the same opportunity as Wai'anae intermediate and Waianae high school. The Legislature finds that adolescent health and wellness is critical at this young age. They also feel that health problems pertaining to behavior, affect students academic performance. School based-health centers help students with sports physical exams, urgent care, and behavioral health needs.

As a Wai'anae Intermediate student I feel like having a school based health center on campus is very beneficial because I get hurt a lot. Without our school based health center I would have to go to the doctors all the way in Ewa Beach, 30 minutes away. This is why I feel that school based health centers should be permanent in the West Coast district.

As a student attending Wai'anae Intermediate, I feel that the Nanakuli-Wai'anae Public School system should have a School Based Health Center with a certified nurse. In Waianae alone, 93% of students who are hurt or sick go to the nurse and go back to class instead of home. This causes less sick days and more honor roll students!

From August 1, 2016 to August 26, 2017, nurses at the two School based health centers treated 2,292 students from everything from coughs to headaches and ankle sprains. 2,121 students were able to return to class after treatment and continued to make good grades. This will enable children to set a good name for themselves, our school, and the whole Waianae Coast. Please help us in supporting our School Based Health Center in the Wai'anae Complex. Thank you!



**HB-1468-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 2:06:37 PM

Testimony for CPH on 3/13/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Bryscen Prothero	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Barriers to healthcare are numerous and our keiki on the West side of Oahu are not exempt from these harsh realities. The School Based Health Centers staffed with Advanced Practice Nurse Practitioners and clinical Psychologists breakdown these barriers by providing the much needed healthcare in a setting that is convenient for students/patients and families. These SBHCs allow our keiki to take charge of their health and health care by providing health literacy that will transition into adulthood. Investing in our keiki's health is investing in Hawaii's health.

Written Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health  
Hearing: Wednesday March 13, 2019 @ 9:00am  
Conference Room 229

From: Malia Agustin  
Submitted on: March 12, 2019

Testimony in support of HB 1468, Relating to the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center

Submitted to: The Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health, (CPH) in Conference Room #229.

Aloha Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Committee,

I strongly support HB 1468. The Nānākuli community has voiced numerous times the need to support our keiki's physical and mental health. Since the opening of the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Centers School-Based Health Center at Nānākuli High & Intermediate School in August of 2018, students have expressed substantial amounts of appreciation for the primary care and behavioral health services they've received.

I am an alumni of Nānākuli High & Intermediate School and have been working with Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center for four years, initially as a Community Research Assistant and currently as a Health Educator within the schools. I have the amazing privilege of speaking from experience as a former student and member of the community, who is immersed in the current issues we face. Our health education topics focus on issues identified by students and school staff, such as suicide prevention, prescription drug abuse and reproductive health education just to name a few. Through in class surveys, students have voiced that they themselves and their families are suffering from multiple health issues, such as chronic asthma, diabetes, various cancers, suicidal ideation, bullying, depression and drug abuse. With the states support we hope to reach the students of the Nānākuli community who are suffering from multiple ailments. With your generous approval to hire a permanent APRN and or Behavioral Health Specialist we hope to do so.

With this in mind, I strongly urge you to support passage of this bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

Malia Agustin

**HB-1468-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 8:37:41 AM

Testimony for CPH on 3/13/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Amber	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

**Written Testimony Presented Before the**

**Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health**

**Hearing: Wednesday March 13, 2019 @ 9:00am**

**Conference Room 229**

**From: Amber, Rosa**

**Submitted on: 3-11-2019**

**Testimony in support of HB 1468, Relating to the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center**

**Submitted to: The Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health, (CPH) in Conference Room #229.**

**Aloha Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Committee,**

**I strongly support HB 1468. By allocating more money to the school-based Health Center program it will create a safe space for students to get the treatments they need without having to take time out of school to get it. As a student of Waianae HighSchool, I can attest to the effectiveness of the Waianae High School School-based Health Center. I feel it's highly beneficial to have trained professionals on site at the school for emergencies and for just normal things.**

**With this in mind, I strongly urge you to support passage of this bill.**

**Thank you for your consideration.**

**Amber, Rosa**

**HB-1468-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 1:38:55 PM

Testimony for CPH on 3/13/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jasmine Robello	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

**Testimony in Support of HB1468**

**HD2 Relating to School Based Health Services**



**Aloha Committee Members,**

**‘O au ‘o Jasmine Kaiaokamalie Robello. He haumana au ma ke kula ki`eki`e o Wai`anae. He umikumaono o`u mau makahiki. I am testifying in strong support of HB 1468 HD2 Relating to School Based Health Services.**

**I am a 11th grade student at Wai`anae High School . On our campus we are lucky to have a Wai`anae Coast Comprehensive Health Clinic (WCCHC). I feel that having WCCHC on our campus provides us with easy access to medical care. When I was going to play softball for my school I needed to complete a physical prior to starting. My family doctor is located in Kalihi and in order to get to my doctor my mom would have to take off from work to drive me. Having WCCHC on campus was a big help because it allowed me to get my physical without having to inconvenience my mom. It also helped me feel a little more independent knowing that I didn't need my mom every step of the way. WCCHC not only provides us with health services but also teaches us how to access health services at a young age so we can prepare to become young adults.**

**The WCCHC doesn't only focus on physical health. Mental health issues is another challenge that many teens face. According to data collected by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, they found that Native Hawaiian keiki are more likely to be victims of abuse and neglect, Native Hawaiian girls in the 9th grade have the highest rates of intentional self harm, and Native Hawaiian youth are 2.3 times more likely to commit suicide. As a Native Hawaiian teen this data is alarming, and I believe that WCCHC will help to address these issues. One of my peers shared with me a personal story about how she was dealing with some mental health issues. She expressed that having the clinic on campus gave her the immediate support to receive services she doesn't think she would have got outside of school. The services she received at the clinic helped her cope with**

her issues and gave her the tools she needed to change her mindset. This is a clear example of how a school based health center can help to support the mental health challenges that teens face.

For these reasons I strongly support HB 1468 Relating to School Based Health Services because it will provide immediate access to health care and support the wellbeing for my NĀ• nĀ• kuli peers. Mahalo for your time.

Me ke aloha,

Jasmine Kaiaokamalie Robello



Written Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health  
Hearing: Wednesday March 13, 2019 @ 9:00am  
Conference Room 229

From: Lisa, Garcia

LATE

Submitted on: March 13, 2019

Testimony in support of HB 1468, Relating to the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center

Submitted to: The Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health, (CPH) in Conference Room #229.

Aloha Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Committee,

I strongly support HB 1468. Waianae and Nanakuli presents with the largest social, physical health, and behavioral health disparities within Oahu Island including substance use, domestic violence, depression, suicidality, homelessness, and diabetes. Traditional health services have not been able to mediate these concerns. It is widely known that taxing chronic diseases are strongly correlated with adverse childhood events and habits established in childhood. The school base health clinics offer adolescents an empowering experience where they feel more comfortable discussing their health concerns. Not surprisingly, adolescents are 40 times more likely to enter an SBHC than a regular community health center. Therefore early innovative intervention is necessary and vital for our future generations.

As a clinical psychologist providing services for 10 years at Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Clinic and at the current SBHCs, I can attest to the reality of these disparities and the urgent need for sustainable SBHCs. I have seen much more severe cases at the SBHCs than all of my years at the main comprehensive clinics. I have thus far assisted in the prevention of over 5 suicides within my short time at the SBHCs, which is a comparably higher number than my experience at the main clinics.

In addition, we have been a substantial force in the fight against substance use through a nationally recognized evidence based approach called Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral, and Treatment (SBIRT), which provides screenings and prevention/intervention methods at every primary care visit. By engaging in this practice with every student, we have been able to provide substance use screeners and interventions to over 1000 clients. We can do more with your approval. With this in mind, I strongly urge you to support passage of this bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lisa Garcia, PSY D