



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

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

March 20, 2019

TO: The Honorable Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair
House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness

FROM: Pankaj Bhanot, Director

SUBJECT: **SB 1230 SD 2 – RELATING TO YOUTH SERVICES PROGRAMS**

Hearing: March 21, 2019, 10:0) a.m.
Conference Room 329, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports this administration measures that continues the reform of the State's juvenile justice system. DHS appreciates the amendments of the Senate Committees on Human Services and Ways and Means. DHS requests an amendment to change the defective date.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this bill is to permit individual non-justice vocational programs within the purview of the Office of Youth Services to engage in commercial enterprises, including the sales of goods and services for self-sustainability purposes.

Act 201, Session Laws of Hawaii (SLH) 2014, initiated juvenile justice reform in Hawaii to improve and enhance Hawaii's juvenile justice system. Working collaboratively cross-sector, there has been a twenty-six per cent reduction in admissions to the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility since Act 201 became law.

Last session, Act 208, SLH 2018, established the Kawaihoa Youth and Family Wellness Center at the campus of the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility, to provide much needed services for at-risk youth and young adults, including victims of commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC).

Innovative programs have commenced at the Wellness Center, and this program will provide skills building, vocational training, and economic programing to prepare youth and

young adults for entry into the workforce.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF YOUTH SERVICES
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March 20, 2019

TO: The Honorable Joy A. San Buenventura, Chair
House Committee on Human Services and Homelessness

The Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura, Vice Chair
House Committee on Human Services and Homelessness

FROM: Merton Chinen, Executive Director

SUBJECT: SB 1230 SD2 RELATING TO YOUTH SERVICES PROGRAMS

Hearing: Thursday, March 21, 2019, 10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 329

OFFICE'S POSITION: The Office of Youth Services supports the measure. It will allow OFFICE OF YOUTH SERVICES to create and expand career and vocational programs through the establishment of a revolving fund, that would receive proceeds from sales for products and services generated by young adults participating in these programs. The State will save money by lessening dependence on funding from State resources. There will also be a positive impact for the public through training and learning experiences provided the young adults, who can enter the workforce better prepared and qualified for the workforce.

We request the following technical language amendments:

Line 10 of the bill be amended to read, "352D-4 (5) shall be deposited".

Line 12 of the bill be amended to read: "of standards-based education services for all young".

Additionally, we request the following amendment to clarify the definition for young adult: Section 352D-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows: Definitions: "Young adults at risk" or "young adult" means any adult between the ages of eighteen and twenty-four who has been arrested, or who has had contact with the police, or who is experiencing social, emotional, psychological, educational, or physical problems, and who is no longer eligible for child protective services provided by the State due to the adult's age.

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PURPOSE: The purpose of the measure is to establish self-funded commercial enterprise vocational programs within the Office of Youth Services for young adults at risk, and to create a revolving fund within the Office of Youth Services, for the receipt of income and payment of expenses generated from the programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.