



Hawai'i Psychological Association

For a Healthy Hawai'i

P.O. Box 833
Honolulu, HI 96808

www.hawaiipsychology.org

Phone: (808) 521-8995

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair,
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

DATE: Friday, February 19, 2021 10:00 A.M. - VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE

Testimony in Support on SB1018 SD1 RELATING TO EFFECTIVE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

The Hawai'i Psychological Association (HPA) supports SB1018 SD1, which requires the Department of Health to establish a pilot project to reorganize various divisions within the Department of Health, including the Behavioral Health Services Administration.

The extent to which the pandemic has eroded the mental health and emotional well-being of our residents cannot be understated. These challenges further compound with each day we combat COVID-19.

According to the purpose section in this bill, the reorganization pilot project it proposes will allow the divisions addressed by this bill to meet the needs of the public in a more responsive, prompt, effective, and efficient way. HPA therefore fully supports the state's ability to meet these challenges in the most expeditious way possible.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input into this important bill.

Sincerely,

Alex Lichton, Ph.D.
Chair, HPA Legislative Action Committee

SB-1018-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2021 2:35:54 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/19/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
cheryl B.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Support.

There are so many issues in our State bureaucracy that can be attributed to the system not keeping up with the current world. This pandemic has heightened our awareness of that for sure. We need to help them reorganize and provide funds to do so.