



SB1128  
**RELATING TO OFFICE OF YOUTH SERVICES**  
Ke Kōmike ‘Aha Kenekoa o ka Lawelawe Kānaka

Pepeluali 11, 2021

3:00 p.m.

Lumi 225

The Beneficiary Advocacy and Empowerment Committee of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) will recommend that the OHA Board of Trustees **SUPPORT** SB1128, which would allow the Office of Youth Services (OYS) to establish a commercial enterprise vocational program for at-risk young adults, and establish a revolving fund to collect the proceeds from enterprise activities to self-sustain the program and provide participating ‘ōpio a stable income. **The program and revolving fund would further the continued transformation of the Hawai‘i Youth Correctional Facility (HYCF) into the Kawaioloa Youth and Family Wellness Center (Kawaioloa Center), and would allow OYS to provide and expand rehabilitative job training services to youth and young adults in critical need of support.**

**OHA notes that addressing the needs of youth involved in or at risk of being involved our juvenile and criminal justice systems has been an issue of longstanding concern.** In 2010, OHA produced a comprehensive report detailing the overrepresentation and disparate treatment of Native Hawaiians in the criminal justice system.<sup>1</sup> This report found that Native Hawaiian youth are disproportionately represented in the juvenile justice system, and are also most frequently arrested in all offense categories.<sup>2</sup> Since 2012, OHA has also administered the Native Hawaiian Justice Task Force (NHJTF), which addressed the multi-faceted issue of Native Hawaiian involvement in the criminal justice system.<sup>3</sup> In its report, the NHJTF further acknowledged that “an individual’s contact with the criminal justice system, regardless of race, often begins at youth.”<sup>4</sup> And in its 2018 Final Report, the HCR85 Task Force on Prison Reform issued a key recommendation to address and counteract the risk of Native Hawaiians’ early involvement in our justice system, imploring the State to develop “early intervention strategies that are focused on diverting Native Hawaiian youth away from the criminal justice system and toward pathways for success.”<sup>5</sup>

**OHA accordingly appreciates and strongly supports this measure, which would enable the implementation and expansion of programming that can reinforce ongoing efforts**

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<sup>1</sup> OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS, THE DISPARATE TREATMENT OF NATIVE HAWAIIANS IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM (2010), [https://www.oha.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/ir\\_final\\_web\\_rev.pdf](https://www.oha.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/ir_final_web_rev.pdf).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.* at 68.

<sup>3</sup> OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS, NATIVE HAWAIIAN JUSTICE TASK FORCE REPORT (2012), [https://www.oha.org/wp-content/uploads/2012NHJTF\\_REPORT\\_FINAL\\_0.pdf](https://www.oha.org/wp-content/uploads/2012NHJTF_REPORT_FINAL_0.pdf).

<sup>4</sup> *Id.* at 21.

<sup>5</sup> HCR85 TASK FORCE ON PRISON REFORM, FINAL REPORT: CREATING BETTER OUTCOMES, SAFER COMMUNITIES xix (2018) available at [https://19of32x2yl33s8o4xza0gf14-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/HCR-85-Task-Force-on-Prison-Reform\\_Final-Report\\_12.28.18.pdf](https://19of32x2yl33s8o4xza0gf14-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/HCR-85-Task-Force-on-Prison-Reform_Final-Report_12.28.18.pdf).

**to prevent and reduce youth and young adult involvement in our juvenile and criminal justice systems.** OHA in particular appreciates that this measure may substantially further the ongoing efforts of the Kawaioloa Center, which seek to address the very concerning findings and recommendations made by the various criminal justice task forces OHA has been involved in or supported over the last decade.

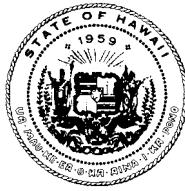
OHA notes that the Kawaioloa Center has already explored and adopted innovative approaches to serving and rehabilitating at-risk and offending youth that is individual-, family-, and community-focused. These include, for example, services to address the unique challenges faced by youth experiencing homelessness, drug addiction, mental illness, and human trafficking. The Kawaioloa Center also supports broader efforts to reach beyond the walls of the HYCF, where it is located. The Kawaioloa Center houses RYSE, a residential and day program that offers homeless, trafficked, and “street entrenched” young adults access to safe temporary shelter and services and programs in furtherance of their short- and long- term needs and goals. The Kawaioloa Center also houses Kinai ‘Eha, an alternative education program intended to “disrupt the Pathway to Prison” for youth who need an individualized academic approach, and that provides them with a sense of purpose, offers them workforce training, and reinforces Hawaiian cultural connections.

The instant measure would complement the Kawaioloa Center’s innovative, holistic approaches to addressing the root causes of justice involvement by allowing the commercial enterprise program to support ‘ōpio at the Kawaioloa Center in new and exciting ways. **Allowing the Office of Youth Services to maintain a special fund will ensure that the Kawaioloa Center’s commercial enterprise program can continue to provide values- and strengths-based economic opportunities and job training that is critical to the ongoing rehabilitation and long-term success of its participants.** Additionally, by providing a stable income for ‘ōpio at HYCF, as well as for participating young adults who have “aged out” of child protective services, this measure will help support their independence and stability in this most unprecedented time.

**Notably, by helping to stabilize the circumstances of these young adults and prevent their further involvement in the criminal justice system, the commercial enterprise vocational program may in itself save the State significant taxpayer dollars in reduced corrections costs over the long-term;** meanwhile, the self-funding nature of the program could also enable it to become cost-neutral or nearly cost-neutral in the near future, even without considering these long-term savings.

**The commercial enterprise program established in this measure will help to heal our broken youth and promote success among our young adults, in turn resulting in stronger individuals and families, and will likely provide long-term benefits to public safety and the overall well-being of our communities.** In addition, the success of the Kawaioloa Center, and its programs, may also serve as a model for greater reform within our criminal justice system.

Therefore, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** SB1128. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
**OFFICE OF YOUTH SERVICES**  
1010 Richards Street, Suite 314  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

February 9, 2021

TO: The Honorable Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair  
Senate Committee on Human Services

The Honorable Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Human Services

FROM: Bruce Shimoda, Executive Director

**SUBJECT: SB 1128 - RELATING TO OFFICE OF YOUTH SERVICES**

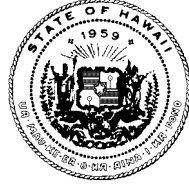
Hearing: Thursday, February 11, 2021, 3:00 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 225  
VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE

**OFFICE'S POSITION:** The Office of Youth Services (OYS) supports the measure. It will allow OYS 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.

**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.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



CATHY BETTS  
DIRECTOR

JOSEPH CAMPOS II  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

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

February 9, 2021

TO: The Honorable Senator Joy San Buenaventura, Chair  
Senate Committee on Human Services

FROM: Cathy Betts, Director

SUBJECT: **SB 1128 – RELATING TO OFFICE OF YOUTH SERVICES.**

Hearing: Thursday, February 11, 2021, 3:00 p.m.  
Via Videoconference, State Capitol

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports this administration measure that continues the reform of the State's juvenile justice system.

**PURPOSE:** Permits individual vocational programs within the purview of the Office of Youth Services to engage in commercial enterprises, including the sale of goods and services, for self-sustainability purposes, for young adults only. Establishes the Office of Youth Services Revolving Fund.

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.

Act 208, SLH 2018, established the Kawailoa 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 programming to prepare young adults

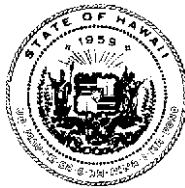
February 9, 2021

Page 2

for entry into the workforce. With this program, these young adults will also be contributors to Hawaii's agricultural workforce needed to maintain local food production.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



BRUCE SHIMODA  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MARK K. PATTERSON  
ADMINISTRATOR

PHONE: (808) 266-9500  
FAX: (808) 266-9506

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

OFFICE OF YOUTH SERVICES  
KAWAILOA YOUTH AND FAMILY WELLNESS CENTER  
42-470 KALANIANA'OLE HIGHWAY  
KAILUA, HAWAII 96734

February 11, 2021

**TO:** Honorable Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura  
Chair Senate Committee on Human Services

**FROM:** Mark Patterson, Administrator, Kawailoa Youth and Family  
Wellness Center.

**SUBJECT:** SB1128 – RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF YOUTH SERVICES

Hearing: Thursday, February 11, 2021, 3:00 p.m.  
VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE  
Conference room 225, State Capitol

**POSITION:** The Administrator of the Kawailoa Youth and Family Wellness Center supports the intent of this measure.

**PURPOSE:** Permits individual vocational programs within the purview of the Office of Youth Services to engage in commercial enterprise, including the sale of goods and services, for self-sustainability purposes, for young adults only, Establishes the Office of Youth Services Revolving Fund.

Over 15,000 young adults ages eighteen through twenty-four in Hawaii are neither employed nor in school, resulting in a life-time state expenditure of \$6.5 billion in lost wages and costs.

This bill will fulfill the OYS requirement under section 352D-4, HRS, to provide vocational training Services for young adults in a self-sustaining fashion. It will allow individual vocational programs under the jurisdiction of OYS to engage in commercial enterprises that are related to their primary educational purpose.

This proposal also supports the Connect 2 Careers partnership, which is formed to build, measure, and scale high-quality work-based learning experiences that align with local, county, and state economic and labor market needs. This measure will enhance the rigor and relevance of work-based learning as young adults engage in comprehensive, real-world, immersive experiences.

The new section to chapter 352D, HRS, will allow OYS to expand and support the career programs by providing that proceeds from the sale of products and services be deposited back into the office of youth services revolving fund. This is a crucial component of being able to sustain, support, and expand the vocational programs that are geared to improving the employment and productive citizenship status of young adults.

The goal is to provide an opportunity for self-sustainability, accountability, and entrepreneurship for our emerging young adults, and not to compete with commercial business at this scale; the vocational enterprise will not be competitive.

Act 169, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, consists of a similar law on behalf of the Department of Education that authorizes individual departments, career pathways, or programs to engage in commercial enterprise by the sale of goods and services produced by or for the program to generate funding for the program.

There is a positive impact for the public in that it lessens the funding that will be required for OYS programming, while creating skilled young adults who can enter the workforce and become self-sufficient. The agricultural vocational programs also add to the state's plan to become more self-reliant and provide our citizens with locally produced products.

Mark Patterson, Administrator  
Kawailoa Youth and Family Wellness Center

# COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

P.O. Box 37158, Honolulu, HI 96837-0158

Phone/E-Mail: (808) 927-1214 / [kat.caphi@gmail.com](mailto:kat.caphi@gmail.com)



## COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Senator Joy San Buenaventura, Chair

Senator Ies Ihara Jr., Vice Chair

Thursday, February 11, 2021

3:00 PM

## SUPPORT FOR SB 1128 - OYS - COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISES

Aloha Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair Ihara, and Members of the Committee!

My name is Kat Brady and I am the Coordinator of Community Alliance on Prisons, a community initiative promoting smart justice policies in Hawai`i for more than two decades. This testimony is respectfully offered on behalf of the more than 4,100 Hawai`i individuals living behind bars or under the “care and custody” of the Department of Public Safety on any given day. We are always mindful that 1,000 of Hawai`i’s imprisoned people are serving their sentences abroad thousands of miles away from their loved ones, their homes and, for the disproportionate number of incarcerated Kanaka Maoli, far, far from their ancestral lands.

Community Alliance on Prisons is in strong support of this measure. We totally support vocational programs for young adults to develop the skills needed to be successful in the marketplace. I have seen young people take such pride in their successes when they are afforded the opportunities to reach their highest and best potential.

We started looking at youth entrepreneurship research and found some compelling reasons to support commercial entrepreneurship at Kawaiiloa.

An issue brief by UNICEF<sup>1</sup> describes youth entrepreneurship:

*Commercial entrepreneurs – those who develop a product, process or service that consumers will pay for. The main objective of commercial entrepreneurship is to generate profits.*

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<sup>1</sup> Youth entrepreneurship: concepts and evidence, Issue brief | Office of Global Insight and Policy, by Andaleeb Alam, February 2019. <https://www.unicef.org/media/72406/file/Youth-entrepreneurship-concepts-and-evidence-issue-brief-2019.pdf>



*Social entrepreneurs* – according to one school of thought, social entrepreneurs use commercial strategies to achieve social goals (e.g., European Commission, OECD, World Bank, ILO, UNCTAD, some governments), and success means creating social and economic value. Another school defines social entrepreneurs as innovators whose innovations catalyze large-scale social change or address social needs, with no explicit mention of economic value creation and earned income strategies (e.g., Ashoka, UNICEF). Social entrepreneurship is a vast field and it is not possible to do justice to this multi-faceted topic here; hence, the scope of the brief is limited to commercial entrepreneurship.

Two statements<sup>2</sup> on youth entrepreneurship highlight the importance of youth creating their own success. This has life-long impacts in how a person interacts with the rest of the world.

*“Any discipline shapes the way we look at the world. A linguist sees a dictionary as the holy grail of knowledge, while an engineer might look at it and see a heavy counterweight. With entrepreneurship comes a prosperous way of thinking—an abundance mindset. The earlier one is exposed to it, the sooner s/he realizes his/her potential as change-makers, the greater impact they can have on society.”* (Carlos Granados, Author and Illustrator, Tales of (Ad)Venture)

*“My impression is that the earlier teenagers are able to start thinking and acting like entrepreneurs, the easier it is for them. The further along in our lives we get, the more set in our ways we become; it’s more difficult for us to change. Oftentimes, kids don’t have the fears and worries about trying new things that adults do. By teaching them early, we are able to capitalize on that lack of fear and help them to become more successful.”* (Matt Allen, Associate Professor of Entrepreneurship, Babson College)

Our youth are our future leaders and we support programs like Kawailoa that helps them reach their fullest potential and to grow into great contributing community contributors!

Mahalo for this opportunity to share our undying support for our youth!

We urge the committee to pass this measure.

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<sup>2</sup> Youth Entrepreneurship: A Valuable Life Lesson, By Kait Smith Lanthier March 2, 2017.  
<https://entrepreneurship.babson.edu/youth-entrepreneurship-a-valuable-life-lesson/>





COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair

Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair

Date: Thursday, February 11, 2021      Time: 3:00 p.m.      Place: Room 225

**Testimony of Kūpuna for the Mo'opuna**

SB 1128 – RELATING TO OFFICE OF YOUTH SERVICES.    **STRONG SUPPORT**

Aloha,

We, Kūpuna for the Mo'opuna, a group of kūpuna Hawaiian homestead farmers committed to the well-being of Hawai'i for the next generations to come, **are in strong support of SB 1128.**

SB 1128 seeks to permit individual vocational programs under the Office of Youth Services to engage in commercial enterprises for self-sustainability purposes. This measure will allow Kawaioloa Youth and Family Wellness Center, formerly known as Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility, to engage in economic enterprises where participants will learn valuable real life lessons that can lead to self-sustainability.

SB 1128 holds promise for Hawai'i's challenged youth. We appreciate this measure designed to improve the well-being and quality of life for Hawai'i's sons and daughters, helping them become productive citizens leading proud lives as Hawai'i's future.

**We urge this Committee to PASS SB 1128.** Mahalo.

***Ua mau ke ea o ka 'āina i ka pono!***

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/8/2021 2:04:46 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Raelyn Reyno Yeomans	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Support.

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/8/2021 2:23:48 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Koki Atcheson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I write to support SB1128, which would allow Kawaiola Youth and Family Wellness Center (formerly known as Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility) to engage in economic enterprise, selling its high-quality, locally and sustainably produced beef to the local market and reinvest profits in its business model. This will enable youth to learn business management and gain practical and marketable job skills while receiving professional mentorship, supportive services, and a living wage. It will also provide a way for incarcerated youth to pay off any fines or restitution. Once completely self-sustaining, the ranch can provide youth with the ability to nourish their community while they enrich and transform their own lives.

Mahalo and please PASS SB1128!

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/8/2021 2:31:03 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jennifer McGurn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support the Kawaihoa Center and its programs and services and believes that their "thinking outside the box" should be acknowledged and rewarded. As someone that also works with at risk youth, programs such as these are the way forward. We must break the cycle of incarceration and violence and the Kawaihoa Center has already shown it is capable of doing so. With more funding and support, they can continue to expand and perhaps set the new standard. Mahalo nui.

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/8/2021 2:39:36 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

I'm writing support SB1128, which would allow Kawaiola Youth and Family Wellness Center (formerly known as Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility) to engage in economic enterprise, selling its high-quality, locally and sustainably produced beef to the local market and reinvest profits in its business model. This will enable youth to learn business management and gain practical and marketable job skills while receiving professional mentorship, supportive services, and a living wage. It will also provide a way for incarcerated youth to pay off any fines or restitution. Once completely self-sustaining, the ranch can provide youth with the ability to nourish their community while they enrich and transform their own lives. Mahalo and please PASS SB1128!

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/8/2021 2:41:34 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rainbow Ulii	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I write to support SB1128, which would allow Kawaiola Youth and Family Wellness Center (formerly known as Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility) to engage in economic enterprise, selling its high-quality, locally and sustainably produced beef to the local market and reinvest profits in its business model. This will enable youth to learn business management and gain practical and marketable job skills while receiving professional mentorship, supportive services, and a living wage. It will also provide a way for incarcerated youth to pay off any fines or restitution. Once completely self-sustaining, the ranch can provide youth with the ability to nourish their community while they enrich and transform their own lives. Mahalo and please PASS SB1128!



**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/8/2021 2:44:22 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Johanna Stone	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill because we need to give our youth skills to thrive. When we lift up the most neglected in our society, we help us all thrive.

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/8/2021 2:48:35 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Patricia K Kanakaole	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Distinguish Committee Members,

I, P. Kanoe Nacua Kanaka'ole, humbly offer my support of bill SB1128 as it seeks to establish a model of self-sufficiency in the current Kawailoa Center Program and Youth Services. I believe in the use of vocational training and professional mentorship in rehabilitation and education; the Kawaiola Center's programming aligns with proven best-practices and innovative approaches found in many successful place/culture-based education throughout the world. Also, animal husbandry is used in reformation methods and model programs which engenders empathy as well as social/emotional development in challenged individuals.

This is a step towards ensuring Hawai'i's youth are provided a structure of positive reformation and rehabilitation in Hawai'i's youth services system. I strongly encourage the Hawai'i State Legislature to pass this bill in this legislative session. Mahalo.

Me ka 'oia'i'o a me ke aloha,

P. Kanoe Nacua Kanaka'ole

'AeLa'a, Puna, Hawai'i

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/8/2021 3:11:52 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rachelle Haumea	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I write to support SB1128, which would allow Kawaiola Youth and Family Wellness Center (formerly known as Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility) to engage in economic enterprise, selling its high-quality, locally and sustainably produced beef to the local market and reinvest profits in its business model. This will enable youth to learn business management and gain practical and marketable job skills while receiving professional mentorship, supportive services, and a living wage. It will also provide a way for incarcerated youth to pay off any fines or restitution. Once completely self-sustaining, the ranch can provide youth with the ability to nourish their community while they enrich and transform their own lives. Mahalo and please PASS SB1128!

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/8/2021 3:28:23 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Catherine Fly	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

I write to support SB1128, which would allow Kawaiola Youth and Family Wellness Center (formerly known as Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility) to engage in economic enterprise, selling its high-quality, locally and sustainably produced beef to the local market and reinvest profits in its business model. This will enable youth to learn business management and gain practical and marketable job skills while receiving professional mentorship, supportive services, and a living wage. It will also provide a way for incarcerated youth to pay off any fines or restitution. Once completely self-sustaining, the ranch can provide youth with the ability to nourish their community while they enrich and transform their own lives. Mahalo and please PASS SB1128!

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/8/2021 4:53:51 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Frances Dinnan	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

I write to support SB1128, which would allow Kawaiola Youth and Family Wellness Center (formerly known as Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility) to engage in economic enterprise, selling its high-quality, locally and sustainably produced beef to the local market and reinvest profits in its business model. This will enable youth to learn business management and gain practical and marketable job skills while receiving professional mentorship, supportive services, and a living wage. It will also provide a way for incarcerated youth to pay off any fines or restitution. Once completely self-sustaining, the ranch can provide youth with the ability to nourish their community while they enrich and transform their own lives. Mahalo and please PASS SB1128!

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/8/2021 5:00:06 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jason Lees	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha kākou,

While I am submitting this testimony on behalf of myself, I work at the Office of Hawaiian affairs (OHA) and created the video of Kawailoa that went semi-viral, reaching ~50K views across social media.

Please watch here:

[https://kawaiola.news/hoonaaauao/a-correctional-center-becomes-a-puuhonua/?fbclid=IwAR20iilC3cFT3rv0Rq4BZj4ahvahRrHXS1L54bmU6XLBsced\\_B0-d85cENc](https://kawaiola.news/hoonaaauao/a-correctional-center-becomes-a-puuhonua/?fbclid=IwAR20iilC3cFT3rv0Rq4BZj4ahvahRrHXS1L54bmU6XLBsced_B0-d85cENc)

And see the audience engagement here:

<https://www.facebook.com/111104088916258/videos/492164945099697>

While filming & editing the video, I felt a personal connection with the work that Mark Patterson is doing, as I myself had trauma in my youth that led me down a dark road for decades. It's only within the last several years that I've been able to live "A GOOD LIFE". I now get to even live out a dream of being a documentary videographer on behalf of the Iā hui.

Giving Mark ALL the tools he needs is so beneficial to our entire community. Mark's work with the youth is really the only way to stem the disproportionate amount of Native Hawaiian (& other Pacific Islander) ADULTS in our corrections system, and can truly turn peoples' lives around.

Please allow Mark to take his pu'uhonua (place of refuge) "to a higher level" as he proclaims in the video.

To finalize, I have NEVER submitted testimony for any other legislative effort in my life. I created an account here on [capitol.hawaii.gov](http://capitol.hawaii.gov) JUST NOW so that I can submit this testimony.

Mahalo piha if you can mālama our keiki & kokua by APPROVING THIS BILL.

Aloha nui,  
Jason Lees

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/8/2021 5:10:20 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Eric M Kapon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I write to support SB1128, which would allow Kawaiola Youth and Family Wellness Center (formerly known as Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility) to engage in economic enterprise, selling its high-quality, locally and sustainably produced beef to the local market and reinvest profits in its business model. This will enable youth to learn business management and gain practical and marketable job skills while receiving professional mentorship, supportive services, and a living wage. It will also provide a way for incarcerated youth to pay off any fines or restitution. Once completely self-sustaining, the ranch can provide youth with the ability to nourish their community while they enrich and transform their own lives.

This is a great idea and long, long overdue for Hawaii. Mahalo and please PASS SB1128!



**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/8/2021 5:11:44 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Penny Kumagai Atcheson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I have never felt a need to submit testimony virtual or otherwise until this year. While I'm not Native Hawaiian, I connect to the needs of the aina, keiki and our future together. As a collective community we need to support the efforts of the cultural history to remedy our problems that have stemmed from trying not to be "Hawaiian." The actions by groups such as Kawailoa Initiative, Ma'o Farms and other honoring the land practices by teaching our youth to honor the aina are a clear direction for reviving our true living with aloha. (That which makes Hawaii, uniquely special and resilient.) Please consider supporting this very simple bill as a way to support and promote such practices. Mahalo, Penny Kumagai Atcheson

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/8/2021 5:17:23 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tadia Rice	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB1128. It would allow Kawaiola Youth and Family Wellness Center (formerly known as Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility) to engage in economic enterprise, selling its high-quality, locally and sustainably produced beef to the local market and reinvest profits in its business model. This will enable youth to learn business management and gain practical and marketable job skills while receiving professional mentorship, supportive services, and a living wage. It will also provide a way for incarcerated youth to pay off any fines or restitution.

Once completely self-sustaining, the ranch can provide youth with the ability to nourish their community while they enrich and transform their own lives.

Please PASS SB1128. Mahalo.

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/8/2021 5:45:55 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Eileen M Gawrys	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

of course. empowering

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/8/2021 7:35:17 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Crystal West	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB1128, which would allow Kawaiola Youth and Family Wellness Center (formerly known as Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility) to engage in economic enterprise, selling its high-quality, locally and sustainably produced beef to the local market and reinvest profits in its business model. This will enable youth to learn business management and gain practical and marketable job skills while receiving professional mentorship, supportive services, and a living wage. It will also provide a way for incarcerated youth to pay off any fines or restitution. Once completely self-sustaining, the ranch can provide youth with the ability to nourish their community while they enrich and transform their own lives. It is important that we as a state change the way that we envision rehabilitation practices, especially considering our youth, and provide culturally and community nurturing programs such as this. Mahalo and please PASS SB1128!

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/8/2021 7:37:01 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Elizabeth Ann K Poire	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I write to support SB1128, which would allow Kawaiola Youth and Family Wellness Center (formerly known as Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility) to engage in economic enterprise, selling its high-quality, locally and sustainably produced beef to the local market and reinvest profits in its business model. This will enable youth to learn business management and gain practical and marketable job skills while receiving professional mentorship, supportive services, and a living wage. It will also provide a way for incarcerated youth to pay off any fines or restitution. Once completely self-sustaining, the ranch can provide youth with the ability to nourish their community while they enrich and transform their own lives. Mahalo and please PASS SB1128!

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/8/2021 9:32:39 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Vanessa Lee Miller	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

I write to fully support SB1128, which would allow Kawaiola Youth and Family Wellness Center (formerly known as Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility) to engage in economic enterprise, selling its high-quality, locally and sustainably produced beef to the local market and reinvest profits in its business model. This will enable youth to learn business management and gain practical and marketable job skills while receiving professional mentorship, supportive services, and a living wage. It will also provide a way for incarcerated youth to pay off any fines or restitution. Once completely self-sustaining, the ranch can provide youth with the ability to nourish their community while they enrich and transform their own lives. Mahalo and please PASS SB1128!

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/9/2021 6:35:20 AM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Noel Shaw	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I write to support SB1128, which would allow Kawaiola Youth and Family Wellness Center (formerly known as Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility) to engage in economic enterprise, selling its high-quality, locally and sustainably produced beef to the local market and reinvest profits in its business model. This will enable youth to learn business management and gain practical and marketable job skills while receiving professional mentorship, supportive services, and a living wage. It will also provide a way for incarcerated youth to pay off any fines or restitution. Once completely self-sustaining, the ranch can provide youth with the ability to nourish their community while they enrich and transform their own lives. Mahalo and please PASS SB1128!

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/9/2021 9:31:59 AM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Angela Lopes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

1. I am native hawaiian. My brothers, father and grandfather, all have been incarcerated for long and short periods of time. This bill will reach youths in hopes to keep them out jail. It will also allow youths to learn life skills, economics, and most importantly develop self-importance with their work. They will be introduced to experience how the world works, with support from the staff. Please pass this bill for our youths who do not have the support from their family due to poverty and intergenerational incarceration like mine.



**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/9/2021 10:06:44 AM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Serafina Gajate	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

I write to support SB1128, which would allow Kawaiola Youth and Family Wellness Center (formerly known as Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility) to engage in economic enterprise, selling its high-quality, locally and sustainably produced beef to the local market and reinvest profits in its business model. This will enable youth to learn business management and gain practical and marketable job skills while receiving professional mentorship, supportive services, and a living wage. It will also provide a way for incarcerated youth to pay off any fines or restitution. Once completely self-sustaining, the ranch can provide youth with the ability to nourish their community while they enrich and transform their own lives. Mahalo and please PASS SB1128!

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/9/2021 2:02:43 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
JoAnn Tsark	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I write to strongly support SB1128, which would allow Kawaiola Youth and Family Wellness Center (formerly known as Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility) to engage in economic enterprise, selling its high-quality, locally and sustainably produced beef to the local market and reinvest profits in its business model. This will enable youth to learn business management and gain practical and marketable job skills while receiving professional mentorship, supportive services, and a living wage. It will also provide a way for incarcerated youth to pay off any fines or restitution. Once completely self-sustaining, the ranch can provide youth with the ability to nourish their community while they enrich and transform their own lives. Mahalo and please PASS SB1128!

Respectfully

J. Tsark

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/9/2021 5:11:26 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lani Carrillo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I, LANI Carrillo am writing to support SB1128, which would allow Kawaiola Youth and Family Wellness Center (formerly known as Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility) to engage in economic enterprise, selling its high-quality, locally and sustainably produced beef to the local market and reinvest profits in its business model. This will enable youth to learn business management and gain practical and marketable job skills while receiving professional mentorship, supportive services, and a living wage. It will also provide a way for incarcerated youth to pay off any fines or restitution. Once completely self-sustaining, the ranch can provide youth with the ability to nourish their community while they enrich and transform their own lives. This is an important and timely opportunity to change the life trajectory of these young people. Economic, vocational and educational opportunities have diminished for this population. It is time to support our young people so they can have a successful future. Mahalo and please PASS SB1128!

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/9/2021 6:41:07 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sarah Michal Hamid	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I stand in support of SB 1128.

Sarah Michal Hamid

sarahhamid10@gmail.com

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/10/2021 12:19:03 AM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair Ihara and Committee Members:

I am writing in strong support of SB1128 Relating to the Office of Youth Services.

The ongoing transformation of the Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facilities and creation of the Kawaiola Youth and Family Wellness Center is an example of visionary leadership and commitment of the original Juvenile Justice Working Group, Judge Browning and now, Mark Patterson.

Hawai'i has enacted deliberate policies to reduce the incarcerated youth population. Through private and public partnerships, the Kawaiola Wellness Center was established to build a correctional campus that emphasizes healing and growth. It has also been described as a pu'uhonua where Hawaiian healing modalities are integrated with therapeutic programming for youth and their 'ohana.

Please help us to reimagine public safety in Hawai'i. Let's invest in what works to build safer and healthier communities. Please support SB1128.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB1128.

Sincerely,

Carrie Ann Shirota, Esq.

cashirota808@gmail.com

TESTIMONY ON SB1128 RELATING TO OFFICE OF YOUTH SERVICES.  
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

February 11th, 2021  
3:00PM

Aloha Chair San Buenaventura, Vice-Chair Ihara, and members of the Senate Committee on Human Services, **my name is Lilinoe Kauahikaua, I am a Masters of Social Work Candidate at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, as well as an Intern with 'Ekolu Mea Nui, and I am here today to support SB1128 Relating to the Office of Youth Services.**

In my current study as a Master's of Social work Candidate, I have focused primarily on the over-representation of Native Hawaiians in the criminal justice system, those currently incarcerated, and those housed in out of state facilities. I am called to this work because of my own experiences with incarceration, substance abuse, and homelessness.

I have had the opportunity to visit Kawaiola Youth and Family Wellness Center (KTFWC) on multiple occasions. KTFWC is changing the way we approach early predictors and contributing factors to juvenile delinquency. KTFWC instead centers on reframing the narrative, diverting focus away from deficit-based understanding. Instead, it develops increased emphasis and interventions that focus on positive youth development that contribute to preferred outcomes.

I write to support SB1128, which would allow Kawaiola Youth and Family Wellness Center (formerly known as Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility) to engage in economic enterprise, selling its high-quality, locally and sustainably produced beef to the local market and reinvest profits in its business model. This will enable youth to learn business management and gain practical and marketable job skills while receiving professional mentorship, supportive services, and a living wage. It will also provide a way for incarcerated youth to pay off any fines or restitution. Once completely self-sustaining, the ranch can provide youth with the ability to nourish their community while they enrich and transform their own lives.

Vocational training instills a sense of confidence and independence for youth, building skills they can then apply to the job market and thrive through a deeper sense of self-determination and improve their chances of economic stability once released. Unlike strictly trade programs, this program will allow youth to gain valuable skills through a wide range of vocational applications based on social entrepreneurship. These applications will allow them to flourish, learn life skills, inspire further educational aspirations, and build personal and professional relationships. SB1128 would give our youth a fighting chance to show us just how resilient they are.

Mahalo, Lilinoe Kauahikaua (Lkauahik@hawaii.edu)

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/9/2021 7:54:12 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jennifer Noelani Ahia	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support this bill!

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/9/2021 7:55:08 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joshua DeMello	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This bill is an excellent opportunity to train wayward youth, provide vocational training, and provide much needed sustainable food to the community. Allowing this program to become self sustainable by selling their goods makes it less reliant on state funds and would be something the state can be proud of. Please support this bill to help our keiki and feed our people. Mahalo



**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/10/2021 7:31:09 AM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Veronica Ogata	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

I write to support SB1128, which would allow Kawaiola Youth and Family Wellness Center (formerly known as Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility) to engage in economic enterprise, selling its high-quality, locally and sustainably produced beef to the local market and reinvest profits in its business model. This will enable youth to learn business management and gain practical and marketable job skills while receiving professional mentorship, supportive services, and a living wage. It will also provide a way for incarcerated youth to pay off any fines or restitution. Once completely self-sustaining, the ranch can provide youth with the ability to nourish their community while they enrich and transform their own lives. Mahalo and please PASS SB1128!

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/10/2021 8:01:45 AM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I write to support SB1128, which would allow Kawaiola Youth and Family Wellness Center (formerly known as Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility) to engage in economic enterprise, selling its high-quality, locally and sustainably produced beef to the local market and reinvest profits in its business model. This will enable youth to learn business management and gain practical and marketable job skills while receiving professional mentorship, supportive services, and a living wage. It will also provide a way for incarcerated youth to pay off any fines or restitution. Once completely self-sustaining, the ranch can provide youth with the ability to nourish their community while they enrich and transform their own lives. Mahalo and please PASS SB1128!

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/10/2021 8:38:16 AM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mary Lacques	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

Testimony in strong support of SB 1128, which would ensure that youth will be able to learn business management and gain practical and marketable job skills while receiving professional mentorship, supportive services, and a living wage.

Additionally, SB 1128 will provide a way for incarcerated youth to pay off any fines or restitution.

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/10/2021 10:17:07 AM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Noalani Nakasone	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Committee on HMS,

I write in support SB1128, which would allow Kawaiola Youth and Family Wellness Center (formerly known as Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility) to engage in economic enterprise, selling its high-quality, locally and sustainably produced beef to the local market and reinvest profits in its business model. This will enable youth to learn business management and gain practical and marketable job skills while receiving professional mentorship, supportive services, and a living wage. It will also provide a way for incarcerated youth to pay off any fines or restitution. Once completely self-sustaining, the ranch can provide youth with the ability to nourish their community while they enrich and transform their own lives. Mahalo and please PASS SB1128!

Respectfully,

Noalani Nakasone

Kaua`i, Hawai`i

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/10/2021 10:52:26 AM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sherry Alu Campagna	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I stand in strong support of SB1128

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/10/2021 12:45:10 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nicole Woolsey	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I write to support SB1128, which would allow Kawaiola Youth and Family Wellness Center (formerly known as Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility) to engage in economic enterprise, selling its high-quality, locally and sustainably produced beef to the local market and reinvest profits in its business model. This will enable youth to learn business management and gain practical and marketable job skills while receiving professional mentorship, supportive services, and a living wage. It will also provide a way for incarcerated youth to pay off any fines or restitution. Once completely self-sustaining, the ranch can provide youth with the ability to nourish their community while they enrich and transform their own lives. Mahalo and please PASS SB1128!

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/10/2021 2:17:28 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Henry boothe	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

This is a great and very important bill towards self sustainability. I support full heartedly and I hope you pass this bill.

Mahalo,

Henry Boothe

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/10/2021 3:15:45 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM



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

Comments:

Young people, especially kÄ• naka maoli, deserve spaces to heal and thrive rather than be incarcerated, abused, and criminalized. Reentry is essential to ensuring harm does not happen again.



**LATE**

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/10/2021 9:11:49 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Aiko Yamashiro	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

This sounds like a creative, smart, and exciting measure to create an avenue for the community to support the recovery and rehabilitation of our young people. I grew up in Kaneohe and still live on the Windward side, and growing up have had friends, neighbors, classmates "get sent to Olomana," as we used to say. These kids were all good kids who needed more support, stability, and direction in their lives. I know many in our Windward community and larger O'ahu community would welcome the chance to support youth through this program. The community can become a part of the solution. It is well-proven that isolation does not help people get stronger. Connection and purpose lead to transformation and to all of us becoming our best selves. In summary, this legislation sounds like an exciting solution to try out, that would be of benefit to all. Mahalo for considering this testimony.

**LATE**

**SB-1128**

Submitted on: 2/10/2021 10:40:43 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gordon B. Lindsey	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support SB1128, for many reasons