

HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

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Carole Gruskin, President

Judith F. Clark, Executive Director

Bay Clinic

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hawaii

Big Island Substance Abuse Council

Bobby Benson Center

Child and Family Service

Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii

Collins Consulting, LLC

Domestic Violence Action Center

EPIC, Inc.

Family Programs Hawaii

Family Support Hawaii

Friends of the Children of West Hawaii

Friends of the Children's Justice Center of Maui

Hale Kipa, Inc.

Hale 'Opio Kauai, Inc.

Hawaii Children's Action Network

Hawaii Health & Harm

Reduction Center

Ho'ola Na Pua

Kahi Mohala

Kokua Kalihi Valley

Kokua Ohana Aloha (KOA)

Maui Youth and Family Services

Na Pu'uwai Molokai Native

Hawaiian Health Care Systems

P.A.R.E.N.T.S., Inc.

Parents and Children Together (PACT)

PHOCUSED

PFLAG – Kona Big Island

Planned Parenthood of the

Great Northwest and

Hawaiian Islands

Residential Youth Services

& Empowerment (RYSE)

Salvation Army Family

Intervention Services

Sex Abuse Treatment Center

Susannah Wesley Community Center

The Catalyst Group

February 25, 2021

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
And members of the Committee on Judiciary

Testimony in Support of SB 25 SD 1 Relating to Medical Care for Minors

Hawaii Youth Services Network, a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports SB 25 SD 1 Relating to Medical Care for Minors

Allowing minors to consent for HIV testing and treatment will reduce risks of HIV transmission and increase likelihood that minors will receive testing and treatment.

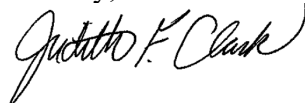
We are not sure that this bill is necessary, however, as minors ages 14 and older already have the right to consent to primary and preventive medical care when parental/guardian consent cannot reasonably be obtained (Citation from the capitol.hawaii.gov website below).

SLH2007_Act35.pdf

in 2007 • ... 528 A Bill for an Act Relating to **Minors**. Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of ... The purpose of this Act is to allow a **minor** who is not under the care, supervision, ...or control of a parent, custodian, or legal guardian, to **consent** to the provision of primary medical care and services....and to read as follows: "CHAPTER PRIMARY MEDICAL CARE FOR **MINORS** WITHOUT SUPPORT §-1 Definitions. For the purposes ... "**Minor** without support" means a person who is at least fourteen years of age but less than eighteen years ...

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark, MPH
Executive Director



February 28, 2021

Senate's Committee on Judiciary
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Hearing: Tuesday, March 2, 2021

RE: **STRONG SUPPORT for Senate Bill 25**

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole and fellow committee members,

I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT for Senate Bill 25 on behalf of the LGBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, Hawaii's oldest and largest policy and political LGBTQIA+ focused organization. SB 25 Permits minors to consent to medical care related to the diagnosis or treatment of HIV or the prevention of HIV. Provides that a minor, under certain circumstances, shall not be liable for payment for treatment or prevention of HIV.

Coming out is personal decision and no minor should have to come out to get access to life saving HIV treatment or HIV prevention drugs.

For these reasons the LGBT Caucus fully supports SB 25.

Mahalo nui loa for your time and consideration,

Michael Golojuch, Jr.
Chair
LGBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i

Testimony of
Jonathan Ching
Government Relations Manager

Before:
Senate Committee on Judiciary
The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair

March 2, 2021
9:35 a.m.
Via Videoconference

Re: SB 25 SD1, Relating to the Medical Care for Minors

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and committee members, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on SB 25 SD1, which permits minors to consent to medical care related to the diagnosis or treatment of HIV or the prevention of HIV and authorizes physician assistants, in addition to physicians and advanced practice registered nurses, to render such treatment to minors.

Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i SUPPORTS SB 25 SD1.

Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i is Hawai'i's largest integrated health system that provides care and coverage for approximately 260,000 members. Each day, more than 4,400 dedicated employees and more than 600 Hawai'i Permanente Medical Group physicians and providers come to work at Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i to care for our members at our 20 medical facilities, including Moanalua Medical Center, providing high-quality care for our members and delivering on our commitment to improve the health of the 1.4 million people living in the communities we serve.

Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i supports SB 25 SD1 because it would ensure and promote access to care for this significantly vulnerable population of our state. Adolescents and young adults (aged 13-29) accounted for 41% of new HIV diagnoses in 2017.¹ Those aged 13 to 24 accounted for 21%; roughly one in every five new diagnoses.² Of these, 44% were unaware of their status. This age group is the least likely to test for HIV, receive HIV treatment or be virally suppressed, or be offered HIV prevention treatment. Data from 2012 to 2016 shows HIV diagnoses have either stabilized or fallen among the majority of adult population groups, however they increased by 6% among those aged 13 to 29.³

¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention(2018) 'Diagnoses of HIV Infection in the United States and Dependent Areas, 2017'.

² Centers for Disease Control and Prevention(2019) 'HIV and youth'.

³ Guilamo-Ramos, V et al. (1 May 2019) 'Comment: Youth at risk of HIV: the overlooked US HIV prevention crisis', *The Lancet HIV*, Volume 6, Issue 5, Pe275-e278.

We support SB 25 SD1 because it would further enable and encourage minors age fourteen to seventeen to obtain such services without involvement of a parent or guardian. Furthermore, we appreciate the amendments made by the Senate Health Committee to include Physician Assistants (PA) where physicians and APRNs are already included in Section 577A to render such treatment to minors.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.



March 1, 2020 - 9:35 a.m.

Senator Karl Rhodes
Senate Committee on Judiciary
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Support For SB25-SD1

To Chair Ruderman, Chair Baker, and fellow committee members;

The Trevor Project writes to support SB25-SD1, which permits minors to consent to medical care related to the diagnosis, treatment, or prevention of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

The Trevor Project is the world's largest suicide prevention and crisis intervention organization for LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Questioning) young people. We work to save young lives by providing support through free and confidential suicide prevention and crisis intervention programs available by our 24/7 phone lifeline, chat, and text services; TrevorSpace, the world's largest safe space social networking site for LGBTQ youth; and through our innovative education, research, and advocacy programs.

From our 2019 National Survey on LGBTQ Youth Mental Health we know that only 68% of LGBTQ young people disclose their sexual orientation to their parents and only 51% of transgender or nonbinary youth share their gender identity. Accessing life-saving HIV prevention services should not be reliant upon sharing one's sexual orientation or gender identity, including with parents and/guardians. This bill is not intended to disrupt meaningful and supportive parental and family relationships, but it gives youth the opportunity to seek care without fear of stigma or other barriers to care.

For these reasons, we support SB25-SD1. Should you have any questions or if we can be of any assistance regarding this matter, please contact me at 202-768-4413 or Sam.Brinton@TheTrevorProject.org.

Sincerely,

Sam Brinton
Head of Advocacy and Government Affairs
The Trevor Project

SB-25-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2021 5:48:19 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/2/2021 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Thaddeus Pham	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha JDC Committee,

As a concerned community member and public health professional, I support SB25, which would allow minors to consent to medical care related to the diagnosis or the prevention of HIV.

A minor's ability to consent to Pre Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) is important for a variety of factors. Many adolescents are unwilling to receive sensitive healthcare services if they need to involve their parent or guardian. This can be an impediment to a minor's willingness to get tested for HIV or accept a prescription for a medication such as PrEP. Given continued stigma surrounding the behaviors that transmit HIV, as well as HIV itself, minors may not want to include their parents and/or guardians in their HIV-related decisions for this reason. Furthermore, minors that come from unsafe homes may fear violence if discovered to be taking an HIV preventive pill.

For these reasons, I urge you to pass SB25.

Mahalo,

Thaddeus Pham (he/him)

SB-25-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2021 9:05:57 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/2/2021 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Linda Kim	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB25, which would allow minors to consent to medical care related to the diagnosis or the prevention of HIV. A minor's ability to consent to PrEP is important for a variety of factors. Many adolescents are unwilling to receive sensitive healthcare services if they need to involve their parent or guardian. This can be an impediment to a minor's willingness to get tested for HIV or accept a prescription for a medication such as PrEP. Given the continued stigma surrounding the behaviors that transmit HIV, as well as HIV itself, minors may not want to include their parents and/or guardians in their HIV-related decisions for this reason. Furthermore, minors that come from unsafe homes may fear violence if discovered to be taking an HIV preventive pill. It's important to pass this bill. It could save lives. Thank you.

SB-25-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2021 10:04:42 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/2/2021 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tiare Sua	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB25, which would allow minors to consent to medical care related to the diagnosis or the prevention of HIV. A minor's ability to consent to PrEP is important for a variety of factors. Many adolescents are unwilling to receive sensitive healthcare services if they need to involve their parent or guardian. This can be an impediment to a minor's willingness to get tested for HIV or accept a prescription for a medication such as PrEP. Given the continued stigma surrounding the behaviors that transmit HIV, as well as HIV itself, minors may not want to include their parents and/or guardians in their HIV-related decisions for this reason. Furthermore, minors that come from unsafe homes may fear violence if discovered to be taking an HIV preventive pill.

SB-25-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2021 10:17:43 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/2/2021 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Itai Bradshaw-Lang	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB25. Allowing minors to consent to medical care related to the diagnosis or the prevention of HIV, such as PrEP, is important for a variety of factors. Many adolescents are unwilling to receive sensitive healthcare services if they need to involve their parent or guardian. This can be an impediment to a minor's willingness to get tested for HIV or accept a prescription for a medication such as PrEP. Given the continued stigma surrounding the behaviors that transmit HIV, as well as HIV itself, minors may not want to include their parents and/or guardians in their HIV-related decisions for this reason. Furthermore, minors that come from unsafe homes may fear violence if discovered to be taking an HIV preventive pill.

SB-25-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2021 10:29:14 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/2/2021 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jen Jenkins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads and Honorable Members,

I support SB25 SD1, which would allow minors to consent to medical care related to the diagnosis or the prevention of HIV. A minor's ability to consent to PrEP is important for a variety of factors. Many adolescents are unwilling to receive sensitive healthcare services if they need to involve their parent or guardian. This can be an impediment to a minor's willingness to get tested for HIV or accept a prescription for a medication such as PrEP. Given the continued stigma surrounding the behaviors that transmit

HIV, as well as HIV itself, minors may not want to include their parents and/or guardians in their HIV-related decisions for this reason. Furthermore, minors that come from unsafe homes may fear violence if discovered to be taking an HIV preventive pill.

Mahalo,

Jen J.

SB-25-SD-1

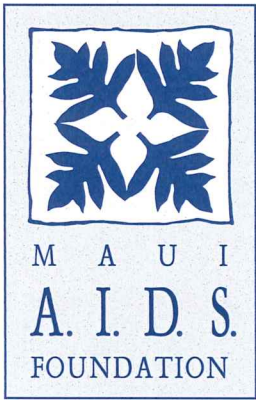
Submitted on: 2/26/2021 12:57:14 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/2/2021 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kevin Tomita	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB25, which would allow minors to consent to medical care related to the diagnosis or the prevention of HIV. A minor's ability to consent to PrEP is important for a variety of factors. Many adolescents are unwilling to receive sensitive healthcare services if they need to involve their parent or guardian. This can be an impediment to a minor's willingness to get tested for HIV or accept a prescription for a medication such as PrEP. Given the continued stigma surrounding the behaviors that transmit HIV, as well as HIV itself, minors may not want to include their parents and/or guardians in their HIV-related decisions for this reason. Furthermore, minors that come from unsafe homes may fear violence if discovered to be taking an HIV preventive pill.



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e-mail: info@mauiids.org

Hawaii State Legislature
Committee On Judiciary
Ke Kapikala Moku'āina
415 South Beretania Street

LATE

March 1, 2021

Re: SB25 SD1 Proposed - RELATING TO MEDICAL CARE FOR MINORS.

Aloha Chair Senator Karl Rhoads and Vice Chair Senator Jarrett Keohokalole and members of the Committee On Judiciary

The Maui AIDS Foundation SUPPORTS SB25 SD1

HIV and AIDS continues to be very serious viruses and its holders, adult and youth alike, still carry stigma around the world, their safety always at the threshold. Very similarly we are now seeing on a grander scale COVID-19, creating the same challenges. We need to get ahead of it.

Many adolescents are unwilling to receive sensitive healthcare services if they need to involve their parent or guardian. This is very similar to young women getting access to birth control, pregnancy tests and abortion/planned parenthood services. We should empower them to take responsibility for their health care.

A minor's ability to consent to getting tested for HIV or accept a prescription for a medication such as PrEP, can ultimately be the end of the spreading of the virus. PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) is medicine people at risk for HIV take to prevent getting HIV from sex or injection drug use. When taken as prescribed, PrEP is highly effective for preventing HIV.

Thus, the Maui AIDS Foundation respectfully urges the committee to **PASS** SB25 SD1.

The mission of Maui AIDS Foundation is to promote the sexual health and well-being of the members of our community. With over 480 diagnosed HIV positive people living on Maui, Maui AIDS Foundation (MAF) is the only comprehensive HIV/AIDS organization in Maui County providing assistance with services including linkage to medical care, access to HIV medications, financial housing assistance, food, and emotional and educational support to those in need. MAF also provides educational programs to inform the community about HIV/AIDS, its transmission, prevention and the impact on the residents of Maui County. We offer free HIV, Hep-C, Syphilis, Gonorrhea and Chlamydia testing as well as Safe Sex Kits (SSK's).

Mahalo for giving us the opportunity to share, me ka 'oia'i'o,

Raysha Mamala
President
Maui AIDS Foundation