



The Judiciary, State of Hawai‘i

**Testimony to the Thirty-First Legislature
2022 Regular Session**

House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs
Representative Mark M. Nakashima, Chair
Representative Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 1, 2022, 2:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Via Videoconference

by
Jasmine Mau-Mukai
Statewide Director, Children’s Justice Centers of Hawai‘i

Bill No. and Title: House Bill No. 1537, Relating to Children’s Justice Program.

Purpose: Updates the purpose of the Children’s Justice Program

Judiciary’s Position:

The Hawai‘i State Judiciary is in strong support of House Bill No. 1537, Relating to the Children’s Justice Program.

The Children's Justice Program was established within the Hawai‘i State Judiciary to ensure a fair and neutral process for the handling of reports of alleged child sexual abuse that protects the rights of both victims and alleged perpetrators. The Program operates children's justice centers, ("The Children's Justice Center," "CJC," or "Center"), statewide, where specially-trained professionals conduct forensic interviews of child victims and witnesses in a safe and neutral setting.

Since its establishment, CJC's operations have expanded to include cases involving child abuse or neglect, generally, and child witnesses. Its current priorities are for cases involving: (1) sexual abuse of a child; (2) serious physical child abuse; (3) child sex trafficking/commercial



House Bill No. 1537, Relating to the Children's Justice Program
House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs
Tuesday, February 1, 2022
Page 2

sexual exploitation of children; (4) other child maltreatment; and (5) children who are witnesses to crime or violence. This bill proposes amendments to reflect these updated priorities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE, 2022**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

H.B. NO. 1537, RELATING TO THE CHILDREN'S JUSTICE PROGRAM.

BEFORE THE:

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

DATE: Tuesday, February 1, 2022 **TIME:** 2:00 p.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Via Videoconference

TESTIFIER(S): Holly T. Shikada, Attorney General, or
Farshad M. Talebi, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Nakashima and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General (Department) supports this bill.

This bill would update the purpose of the children's justice program to include supporting suspected or confirmed child witnesses to crime or violence, as well as supporting the interagency investigation and management of cases involving victims of suspected or confirmed child sex trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation of children, and other child maltreatment.

The children's justice program currently plays a vital role in providing support for the special needs of child victims and witnesses of child sex abuse and serious physical child abuse. The bill recognizes that victims of child sex trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation of children, and other child maltreatment and child witnesses to crime or violence are also vulnerable and experience various forms of complex trauma, and would benefit from the support of the children's justice program. Expanding the purpose of the program to include these additional victim populations aligns with the mission of the children's justice program and will help reduce and prevent unnecessary trauma while ensuring justice for children and their families.

The Department respectfully asks the Committee to pass this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 02/01/2022

Time: 02:00 PM

Location: Via Videoconference

Committee: House Judiciary & Hawaiian
Affairs

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Interim Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 1537 RELATING TO THE CHILDREN'S JUSTICE
PROGRAM.

Purpose of Bill: Updates the purpose of the children's justice program to include investigation and management of cases involving suspected or confirmed child sex trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation of children, other child maltreatment, and child witnesses to crime or violence. Makes conforming amendments.

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) fully supports HB 1537. The Department acknowledges the importance of awareness and prevention as well as providing services to victims of sexual exploitation and sex trafficking and is currently committed to delivering training/programming to middle/intermediate and high schools and faculty. As such, the Department supports agencies such as the Children's Justice Centers of Hawaii who specialize in investigations and management of cases involving child victims.

The Department acknowledges the work of the Children's Justice Centers of Hawaii and other government and non-profit agencies as critical in addressing the sexual abuse continuum in Hawaii.

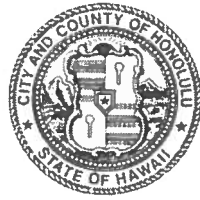
The Department currently collaborates and consults with the Children's Justice Centers of Hawaii and views the expansion of their scope of services to include child sex trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation of children, and other forms of child maltreatment as essential in our continued work toward increased child safety in

Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support on this measure.

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET · HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 529-3111 · INTERNET: www.honolulu-pd.org



RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR

RADE K. VANIC
INTERIM CHIEF

OUR REFERENCE

BN-KK

February 1, 2022

The Honorable Mark M. Nakashima, Chair
and Members
Committee on Judiciary
and Hawaiian Affairs
House of Representatives
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nakashima and Members:

SUBJECT: House Bill No. 1537, Relating to the Children's Justice Program

I am Brandon Nakasato, Captain of the Criminal Investigation Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The health, safety, and well-being of Hawaii's keiki who are victims or witnesses of any crime or violence continues to be a priority for the HPD and all collaborating partners participating in this program. The HPD supports the proposed amendments to the purpose of the Children's Justice Program to include all child victims or witnesses of all types of cases, suspected or confirmed.

The HPD supports House Bill No. 1537, Relating to the Children's Justice Program.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Rade K. Vanic in black ink.

Rade K. Vanic
Interim Chief of Police

Handwritten signature of Brandon Nakasato in black ink.

Brandon Nakasato, Captain
Criminal Investigation Division

Rebecca Like
Acting Prosecuting Attorney

Jennifer S. Winn
Acting First Deputy

Leon J. C. Davenport, III
Acting Second Deputy



Diana Gausepohl-White
Victim/Witness Program Director

Theresa Koki
Life's Choices Kaua'i Program
Prevention Services Coordinator

OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

County of Kaua'i, State of Hawai'i

3990 Ka'ana Street, Suite 210, Līhu'e, Hawai'i 96766
808-241-1888 ~ FAX 808-241-1758
Victim/Witness Program 808-241-1898 or 800-668-5734

January 28, 2022

RE: HB 1537; RELATING TO THE CHILDREN'S JUSTICE PROGRAM

Chair Nakashima, Vice-Chair Matayoshi and members of the House Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs Committee, the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Kauai ("OPA") submits the following testimony in support of H.B. 1537.

This Bill amends the Children's Justice Program's statute, HRS 588:

1) Definitions to include sexual exploitation, serious physical abuse, child witnesses to crime and child trafficking;

As a partner agency of the Children's Justice Centers, we work in collaboration to meet the special needs of children who are alleged victims of child abuse or witnesses to crime. This change to the Children's Justice Program statute will allow our office to better serve child victims and witnesses.

In closing, we are in strong support of HB 1537 and ask for your assistance in its passing during this legislative session.

For these reasons, the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Kauai supports the passage of H.B. 1537. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Testimony on behalf of the
Hawai'i Exploitation and Trafficking (HEAT) Unit

January 28, 2022

SUBJECT: HB1537 Relating to the Children's Justice Program

Dear Chair Nakashima and Committee Members:

We are submitting testimony in **SUPPORT** of HB1537. This bill appropriately expands the program's jurisdiction into suspected or confirmed cases of child sex trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation of children, other child maltreatment, and child witnesses to crime or violence.

The Hawai'i Exploitation and Trafficking (HEAT) Unit was started by Hawai'i County Councilmember Matt Kāneali'i-Kleinfelder and is attended by community organizations and government representatives concerned with sex trafficking.

The Children's Justice Center has been actively involved with our unit's work to more effectively deploy services to victims of exploitation and trafficking. If passed, this bill would reflect the wide variety of crimes against children that the Children's Justice Center multidisciplinary teams are already working on.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this bill.

Mahalo,

Matt Kāneali'i-Kleinfelder

Councilmember
Hawai'i County District 5

Esau Fuailema

Hawai'i Island Coalition Against
Human Trafficking

Dominique Roe-Sepowitz, MSW, PhD

Associate Professor,
Director, Office of Sex Trafficking Intervention
Research
Arizona State University

Melody Stone

Founder
Hawai'i Island Coalition Against
Human Trafficking

Quiana Anastasio

Hawai'i Island Coalition Against
Human Trafficking

Rosaline Mavaega

Hawai'i Island Coalition Against
Human Trafficking

Victoria Roland

(Co)Program Director
Susannah Wesley Community Center
Trafficking Victims Assistance Program (TVAP) -
Hawai'i

Rebecca Villegas

Councilmember
Hawai'i County District 7

HB-1537

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 7:51:20 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/1/2022 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Allen Bartolome | County of Hawaii, Office of the Prosecuting Attorney | Support | No |

Comments:

We support the passage of this bill

HB-1537

Submitted on: 1/28/2022 2:34:55 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/1/2022 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Diana Gausepohl-White | County of Kauai Victim/Witness Program | Support | No |

Comments:

I strongly support HB1537 which expands the types of victimization of children who will receive assistance at the Children's Justice Center. Our two agencies have a well established relationship and collaborate effectively in serving child victims and witnesses.

I respectfully ask that your Committee PASS the Bill. Thank you for your time in this matter.

1045A Kilauea Ave.
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Phone 808.935.2188
Fax 808.961.2073
Email cfs@cfs-hawaii.org
www.childandfamilyservice.org



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Re: Written Testimony (Letter) to the Legislation

1/28/2022

To: Chair of the House Committee, Mark Nakashima.

Subject: HB # _HB1537, relating to the Children's Justice Program (also known as the Children's Justice Centers of Hawaii).

Hearing Date, Time & Location: February 1, 2022, via video conference.

Aloha.

My name is Denby Toci, of Child and Family Service, Hilo Office.
We are **in favor** of **HB #1537**.

This Bill amends the Children's Justice Program's statute, HRS 588:

1) Definitions to include sexual exploitation, serious physical abuse, child witnesses to crime and child trafficking.

As a partner agency of the Children's Justice Centers, we work in collaboration to meet the special needs of children who are alleged victims of child abuse or witnesses to crime.

In closing, we are in strong support of HB#1537 and ask for your assistance in its passing this bill during this legislative session. Mahalo.

Denby Toci
Program Director II
Child and Family Service
1045A Kilauea Ave,
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Office: 808-935-2188
Cell: 808-960-5588
Email: dtoci@cfs-hawaii.org

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AFFILIATIONS
Alliance for Strong Families
and Communities
Kauai United Way
Maui United Way
Hawaii Island United Way



"We're All About FAMILY"

Mission: Strengthening Families and Fostering the Healthy Development of Children

HB-1537

Submitted on: 1/28/2022 5:29:20 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/1/2022 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Franz Weber | Kids Matter - Friends of the Children's Justice Center of West Hawaii | Support | No |

Comments:

Date January 27, 2022

To: Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi and Rep. Saiki

Members of the House Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs Committee

Subject: SB # 2114 or HB # 1537, Relating to the Children’s Justice Program (also known as the Children’s Justice Centers of Hawaii).

Hearing Date, Time & Location February 1, 2022 @ 2:00pm.

My name is Franz Weber from Paying It Forward – West Hawaii, Kids Matter – Friends of the Children’s Justice Center of West Hawaii, Kiwanis – Kailua-Kona

We are in favor of SB 2114 or HB 1537.

This Bill amends the Children’s Justice Program’s statute, HRS 588:

1) Definitions to include sexual exploitation, serious physical abuse, child witnesses to crime and child trafficking;

1. a partner agency of the Children's Justice Centers, we work in collaboration to meet the special needs of children who are alleged victims of child abuse or witnesses to crime.

In closing, we are in strong support of SB or HB and ask for your assistance in its passing during this legislative session.

Franz Weber

75-5660 Kopiko St.

Ste. C 7, # 106

Kailua-Kona, Hi 96740

(808) 896-6655

FIM2020@outlook.com

January 28, 2022

To: Rep. Mark Nakashima, Chair
Rep. Scot Matayoshi, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Subject: HB #1537 Relating to the Children's Justice Program (also known as the Children's Justice Centers of Hawaii)

Hearing Date: February 1, 2022

Hearing Time: 2:00 pm

My name is Stefani Iwami from YWCA of Kaua'i. This agency provides a multitude of services to advocate for, support and treat families who are affected by interpersonal violence; this includes acts of sexual exploitation, serious physical abuse, child witnesses to crime and child trafficking. We are in favor of HB #1537.

This Bill amends the Children's Justice Program's statute, HRS 588:

- 1) Definitions to include sexual exploitation, serious physical abuse, child witnesses to crime and child trafficking.

The YWCA of Kaua'i is a partner agency of the Children's Justice Center. We take a multidisciplinary approach to support alleged victims of various types of child abuse. The clarification of 'child abuse' to include the sexual exploitation, trafficking, serious physical abuse and exposure to a crime as an abusive act of a child is imperative. The inclusion of these acts in the definition of child abuse will help our ability to meet the needs of children who experience these heinous acts in our coordinated response. Most importantly, clarifying the definition of child abuse will allow professionals and our general public alike to have the same understanding of what child abuse encompasses and will contribute to stop child abuse from occurring.

In closing, the YWCA of Kaua'i is strongly in favor of HB #1537 and asks for your assistance in passing this bill during this legislative session.



Stefani Iwami
Clinical Director
YWCA of Kaua'i
3094 Elua Street
Lihu'e, HI 96766
(808) 245-5959, ext. 243



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Joshua A. Wisch

Date: January 30, 2022

To: Rep Mark M. Nakashima, Chair
Rep. Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair

From: Lynn Costales Matsuoka, Associate Director
The Sex Abuse Treatment Center
A Program of Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children

RE: Testimony in Support of HB 1537
Relating to the Children's Justice Center

Hearing: February 1, 2022, via video conference 2:00pm

Good Morning Chair Nakashima and Vice Chair Matayoshi and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs:

The Sex Abuse Treatment Center (SATC) is in support of HB 1537, relating to the Children's Justice Center.

The Children's Justice Center (CJC) has long been a leader in managing the interagency and inter professional coordination and cooperation between agencies who handle the treatment, identification, and investigation (civil and criminal) of child abuse both physical and sexual. Over the course of many years it has established professional relationships with government and non-government agencies that respond to child abuse.

The proposed legislation in HB 1537 is natural extension of statutory purview of the CJC in developing and coordinating a seamless system response to child abuse, to include child sex trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of children.

The SATC supports the continued work of the CJC and supports HB 1537. Thank you for your consideration.

HB-1537

Submitted on: 1/31/2022 11:36:33 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/1/2022 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Shirley David | St. Michael the Archangel Church | Support | No |

Comments:

It is a travesty when our keiki are not safe from sexual exploitation, trafficking and violence. They suffer long-term trauma that that affects their wellbeing both physically and mentally. And it affects the well-being of our community.

The bill amends the purpose of the children's justice program to include cases involving suspected or confirmed child sex trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation of children, other child maltreatment, and child witnesses to crime or violence.

Make protecting our keiki a priority. Move this bill along.

Shirley David, Pastoral Council Chair

St. Michael the Archangel Church, Kailua Kona

HB-1537

Submitted on: 1/31/2022 11:53:06 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/1/2022 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|--------------|---|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Damon Chong | Friends of the Children's Justice Center of Kauai | Support | No |

Comments:

January 31st, 2022

To: Chair M. Nakashima, Senate President R. Kouchi, and members of the House Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs Committee

Re: **SB #2114 & HB #1537**, Relating to the Children's Justice Program (Children's Justice Centers of Hawaii).

My name is Damon K. Chong from the Friends of the Children's Justice Center of Kauai.

We are in favor of SB #2114 and HB#1537.

This Bill amends the Children's Justice Program's statute, HRS 588:

1) Definitions to include sexual exploitation, serious physical abuse, child witnesses to crime and child trafficking;

As a partner agency of the Children's Justice Centers, we work in collaboration to meet the special needs of children who are alleged victims of child abuse or witnesses to crime.

In closing, we are in strong support of SB or HB and ask for your assistance in its passing during this legislative session.

Mahalo,

Damon K. Chong

Phone: 808-221-1588

Email: damonkchong@gmail.com

Address: 4595 Eleele Road, Eleele, HI 96705



January 31, 2022

To: The House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Subject: HB #1537, Relating to the Children's Justice Program (also known as the Children's Justice Centers of Hawaii).

Hearing Date, Time & Location: Tuesday, February 1, 2022, 2:00 p.m., VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

My name is Guy Nishihira, Board Treasurer of the Friends of the Children's Justice Center of Oahu.

We are in favor of HB #1537.

This Bill amends the Children's Justice Program's statute, HRS 588:

1) Definitions to include sexual exploitation, serious physical abuse, child witnesses to crime and child trafficking;

As a partner agency of the Children's Justice Centers, we work in collaboration to meet the special needs of children who are alleged victims of child abuse or witnesses to crime.

In closing, we are in strong support of HB #1537 and ask for your assistance in its passing during this legislative session.

Sincerely,

Guy Nishihira
Board Treasurer
Friends of the Children's Justice Center of Oahu

745 Fort Street, Suite 2100
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone: 808-695-3611



Written Testimony to the Legislature

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2022

January 31, 2022

To: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Rep. Mark M. Nakashima, Chair

Rep. Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice

Chair Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Rep. Nadine K. Nakamura, Rep. Dale T. Kobayashi, Rep. Roy M. Takumi, Rep. Matthew S. LoPresti, Rep. Chris Todd, Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Rep. James Kunane Tokioka, Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Rep. Gene Ward

Subject: HB 1537, Relating to the Children's Justice Program (also known as the Children's Justice Centers of Hawaii).

Hearing Date, Time & Location: Tuesday, February 1, 2022 via video conference

My name is Jenna Tomas from Friends of the Children's Justice Center of Oahu.
We are in favor of HB 1537.

This Bill amends the Children's Justice Program's statute, HRS 588:

1) Definitions to include sexual exploitation, serious physical abuse, child witnesses to crime and child trafficking;

As a partner agency of the Children's Justice Centers, we work in collaboration to meet the special needs of children who are alleged victims of child abuse or witnesses to crime.

In closing, we are in strong support of HB 1537 and ask for your assistance in its passing during this legislative session.

Jenna Tomas, Executive Director
Friends of the Children's Justice Center of Oahu
(808) 445-1873
3019 Pali Hwy. Honolulu, HI 96817



TO: Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Ryan Kusumoto, President & CEO of Parents And Children Together (PACT)

DATE/LOCATION: February 1, 2022; 2:00 p.m., Video Conference

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1537 RELATING TO THE CHILDREN'S JUSTICE PROGRAM

We support HB 1537 which updates the purpose of the children's justice program to include investigation and management of cases involving suspected or confirmed child sex trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation of children, other child maltreatment, and child witnesses to crime or violence, and makes conforming amendments.

Our agency has collaborated with the Children's Justice Centers on Maui and Oahu in supporting and providing integral services to children and families that have been impacted by child abuse, neglect, domestic violence, child sexual exploitation. The staff are excellent at bringing together community providers and facilitate impactful and focused multi-disciplinary meetings to support families and children with services that can assist them in healing from the trauma that they have experienced. This interagency coordination, information sharing, and gathering provides a needed safety net and identification of clear roles so each of us can best support the family without overwhelming them. The exchange of information assists families at every stage of recovery and throughout the often difficult and challenging process of navigating the criminal justice system.

We support the change in this bill that will add to the current purview of the children's justice program to include the investigation and management of cases involving suspected or confirmed child sex trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation of children, other child maltreatment, and child witnesses to crime or violence. As providers of services to victims and survivors of domestic violence, child abuse, and child sex trafficking, we work with the aftermath of the trauma that individuals who have experienced this type of violence live with every day. Survivors of abuse experience significant and life-long psychological, emotional, and physical

pain that impacts their ability to feel safe in their community, to lead lives without fear and anxiety, and to tell their story without shame.

The children's justice center has built a foundation of care – from investigation to case management – that supports a child fully as they tell their story of abuse, trauma, and pain. Survivors of trauma need a place where they feel safe, supported, and heard – a place where their story will not be lost, but honored and guided to justice. The CJC has been doing this work for years and will continue to be there for the children and families that walk through their doors to offer their support and hope and to give a voice to those that are often silenced.

Founded in 1968, Parents And Children Together (PACT) is one of Hawaii's not-for-profit organizations providing a wide array of innovative and educational social services to under-resourced families. Assisting more than 17,000 people across the state annually, PACT helps families identify, address and successfully resolve challenges through its 20 programs. Among its services are: early education programs, domestic violence prevention and intervention programs, child abuse prevention and intervention programs, childhood sexual abuse supportive group services, child and adolescent behavioral health programs, sex trafficking intervention, poverty prevention and community strengthening programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify regarding **HB 1537**, please contact me at (808) 847-3285 or rkusumoto@pacthawaii.org if you have any questions.



January 31, 2022

To: Rep. Mark M. Nakashima
Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

HB #1537, RELATING TO THE CHILDREN'S JUSTICE PROGRAM
HEARING ON FEBRUARY 1, 2022 AT 2:00PM VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice-Chair Matayoshi, and members of the Committee:

My name is Shantae Williams from the Susannah Wesley Community Center (SWCC).
We are in **support** of House Bill 1537.

This Bill amends the Children's Justice Program's statute, HRS 588:

1) Definitions to include sexual exploitation, serious physical abuse, child witnesses to crime and child trafficking;

SWCC's Trafficking Victim Assistance Program – Hawaii (TVAP-Hawaii) serves child victims of all forms of human trafficking and commercially sexually exploited children (CSEC) across the state of Hawaii. A multidisciplinary approach when working with child victims of sex trafficking and/or CSEC is imperative. The Children's Justice Programs multidisciplinary team meetings ensure collaboration, accountability and transparency system wide for those serving sexually trafficked and sexually exploited children.

As a partner agency of the Children's Justice Centers, we work in collaboration to meet the special needs of children who are alleged victims of child abuse or witnesses to crime.

In closing, we are in **strong support** of HB1537 and ask for your assistance in its passing during this legislative session.

Thank you,

Shantae Williams, Psy.D.
Susannah Wesley Community Center
(808)226-0543

I am in full support of this bill. I am Lieutenant of the Sex Crimes detail for adults and children. My detective's utilize the Children's Justice Center constantly and has helped tremendously in facilitating our children's forensic interviews and by providing support to them and their families. Child sex trafficking is basically children getting Sex Assaulted for compensation.



HAWAII STATE CHAPTER OF
CHILDREN'S JUSTICE CENTERS

January 19, 2022

House of Representatives
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

TO: Rep. Mark M. Nakashina, Chair
House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

Hearing Date: February 1, 2022, 2 PM via videoconference

RE: HB 1537

My name is Holly Walker, President of the Hawaii State Chapter of Children's Justice Centers (HSCCJC). HSCCJC supports HB 1537 which amends statute HRS 588.

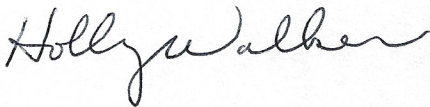
HSCCJC is a non-profit organization which was developed to help support the Judiciary's Children's Justice Centers program. Our Board membership is comprised of community members and representatives from the CJC program.

MISSION:

The Hawaii State Chapter of Children's Justice Centers works to prevent and reduce the impact of child abuse through education, leadership, and enhancing statewide collaboration.

In closing, we are in strong support of HB1537 and ask for your assistance in its passing during this legislative session.

Sincerely,



Holly Walker, Board President
Hawaii State Chapter of Children's Justice Centers

Written Testimony to the Legislature (01/2022)

Date: 01/28/2022

To: Mark M. Nakashima, Chair
Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

Subject: HB #1537 Relating to the Children's Justice Program (also known as the Children's Justice Centers of Hawaii).

Hearing Date, Time & Location: February 1, 2022 at 2:00 PM via videoconference

My name is Shiloh Stone, a student of psychology, criminal justice, and child advocacy, and an intern with the Children's Justice Centers of Hawaii.

I am in favor of HB 1537.

This Bill amends the Children's Justice Program's statute, HRS 588:

1) Definitions to include sexual exploitation, serious physical abuse, child witnesses to crime and child trafficking;

As a student of child advocacy and an intern with the Children's Justice Centers of Hawaii, I have researched and learned both in the classroom and first hand the need for the Children's Justice Program to continue their work of meeting the special needs of children who have experienced a traumatic event. This Bill allows the Children's Justice Program to do this important work with children who have experienced a wide variety of traumatic events.

In closing, I am in strong support of HB 1537 and ask for your assistance in its passing during this legislative session.

Shiloh Stone
314-691-4900

HB-1537

Submitted on: 1/31/2022 1:55:59 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/1/2022 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Thomas Shopay | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

January 31, 2022

To: Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi and Rep. Saiki

Members of the House Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs Committee

Subject: SB # 2114 or HB # 1537, Relating to the Children’s Justice Program (also known as the Children’s Justice Centers of Hawaii).

Hearing Date, Time & Location February 1, 2022 @ 2:00pm.

My name is Thomas Shopay from Hawai’i Island.

I am in favor of SB 2114 or HB 1537.

This Bill amends the Children’s Justice Program’s statute, HRS 588:

1) Definitions to include sexual exploitation, serious physical abuse, child witnesses to crime and child trafficking;

The Children's Justice Centers work in collaboration with various entities to meet the special needs of children who are alleged victims of child abuse or witnesses to crime. Their services help provide an environment for child victims to feel safe and ensure the proper reporting is completed while minimizing the potential revictimization during court proceedings.

In closing, I am in strong support of SB or HB and ask for your assistance in its passing during this legislative session.

HB-1537

Submitted on: 1/31/2022 2:40:26 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/1/2022 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Dara Carlin, M.A. | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Stand in support.

HB-1537

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 8:52:02 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/1/2022 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------|----------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Heidi Teraoka | Neighborhood Place of Kona | Support | No |

Comments:

2/1/2022

To: Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi and Rep. Saiki

Members of the House Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs Committee

Subject: SB # 2114 or HB # 1537, Relating to the Children’s Justice Program (also known as the Children’s Justice Centers of Hawaii).

Hearing Date, Time & Location February 1, 2022 @ 2:00pm.

Aloha! My name is Heidi Teraoka from Neighborhood Place of Kona.

We are in favor of SB 2114 or HB 1537.

This Bill amends the Children’s Justice Program’s statute, HRS 588:

1) Definitions to include sexual exploitation, serious physical abuse, child witnesses to crime and child trafficking;

As a partner agency of the Children’s Justice Centers, we work in collaboration to meet the special needs of children who are alleged victims of child abuse or witnesses to crime.

In closing, we are in strong support of SB # 2114 or HB # 1537 and ask for your assistance in its passing during this legislative session.

Sincerely,

Heidi Teraoka

Executive Director

Neighborhood Place of Kona

75-166 Kalani St., #104

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