



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN
LT. GOVERNOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310
P.O. BOX 541
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
Phone Number: 586-2850
Fax Number: 586-2856
cca.hawaii.gov

CATHERINE P. AWAKUNI COLÓN
DIRECTOR

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

**Before the
House Committee on Finance
Wednesday, April 6, 2022
2:45 p.m.
Conference Room 308 and Videoconference**

**On the following measure:
S.B. 2375, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, RELATING TO SOCIAL WORK**

Chair Luke and Members of the Committee:

My name is Rochelle Araki, and I am the Executive Officer of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs' (Department) Professional and Vocational Licensing Division (Division) Social Worker Licensing Program (Program). The Department offers comments on this bill.

The purposes of this bill are to require: (1) the Department of Public Safety, in collaboration with the Department of Human Services, to develop and establish a social work training program to assist nonviolent incarcerated individuals in exploring a professional pathway in social work and becoming eligible to work as assistants to licensed social workers; and (2) the Department of Public Safety and Department of Human Services to jointly submit a report of the departments' progress in developing and establishing the social work training program to the Legislature no later than the twenty days prior to the convening of the regular sessions of 2023 and 2024.

While the Department appreciates the intent of this measure, the Department would like to ensure that any individual exploring a professional pathway in the practice

of social work also comply with Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) chapter 467E. HRS chapter 467E sets forth, among other things, the requirements to be issued a license to practice social work in the State of Hawaii, as well as specific prohibited acts in connection with the use of the title of social worker with a person's name.

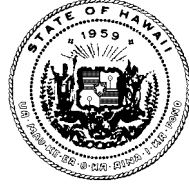
For the Committee's information, HRS section 467E-7 sets forth the license requirements for licensed social workers in the State, including education, examination, and experience requirements, and HRS section 467E-13 sets forth prohibited acts and penalties. HRS section 467E-13 states, in relevant part, that:

- (a) No person shall:
 - (1) Use in connection with the person's name any designation tending to imply that the person is a social worker, licensed bachelor social worker, licensed social worker, or licensed clinical social worker unless the person is duly licensed and authorized under this chapter; and
 - (2) Represent oneself as a social worker, licensed bachelor social worker, licensed social worker, or licensed clinical social worker during the time the person's license issued under this chapter is forfeited, terminated, suspended, or revoked.
- (b) Any person who violates this section shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000 and each day's violation shall be deemed a separate offense.

Any person engaged in the practice of social work, unless specifically exempted from licensure pursuant to HRS section 467E-6, is subject to licensure by the Program.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

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

April 5, 2022

TO: The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
House Committee on Finance

FROM: Cathy Betts, Director

SUBJECT: **SB 2375 SD1 HD1 – RELATING TO SOCIAL WORK.**

Hearing: March 22, 2022, 2:00 p.m.
Via Videoconference

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) appreciates the intent of the bill, offers comments, and requests clarification. The Department defers to the Department of Public Safety (PSD).

PURPOSE: The purpose of the bill requires the Department of Public Safety, in collaboration with the Department of Human Services, to develop and establish a social work training program to assist nonviolent incarcerated individuals in the area of social work. Requires progress reports on the program to the legislature. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/2060. (HD2)

The SD1 amended the measure by:

- (1) Providing that eligible participants in the program may include all nonviolent incarcerated individuals, rather than nonviolent misdemeanants and petty misdemeanants only, as suggested in written comments from the Community Alliance on Prisons;
- (2) Clarifying that participants should be trained to explore a professional pathway in the practice of social work, as suggested in written comments from the Hawaii Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers;

- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2050, to facilitate further discussion on the measure; and
- (4) Making technical nonsubstantive changes for purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

The HD1 further defected the effective date and made additional technical amendments. The HD2 amended the measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Department of Public Safety and Department of Human Services are to jointly submit a report on their progress in developing and establishing the social work training program; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

The Department appreciates the SD1 amendments to establish a program that explores a pathway toward social work practice. Given the continuing stress and impacts of the pandemic, the need and demand for social workers, mental health providers, or individuals with those skills will increase. In addition, employment is a strong protective factor against recidivism, and incarcerated individuals may bring with them lived experience expertise that could be useful in the social work field and the community.

Department is aware of models where incarcerated individuals gain high school diplomas and college credits while incarcerated. However, these models generally have strong leadership from higher education, and the Department and PSD will likely need technical assistance from higher education, other skills-building, or mentorship programs.

Several other measures contemplate additional reentry, family, and community resources, including HB 1741 HD1 Relating To Children And Family of Incarcerated Individuals. The Department, PSD, and community organizations have partnered to establish a pilot visitation and family resource center at Waiawa correctional facility on Oahu. Additionally, DHS administration measure SB3111 SD2 Relating to Family Resource Centers is a partnership with the Departments of Education and Health, the Office of Youth Services, the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility, and community organizations. SB3111 SD2 aims to establish a school- and community-based network of family resource centers. A cadre of social workers, paraprofessionals, or peer specialists with justice system experiences would be a valuable resource to individuals and families impacted by incarceration.

The Department will collaborate with PSD, higher education, and other agencies and community organizations on this innovative proposal.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 2375, S.D. 1, H.D. 2

April 6, 2022
2:45 p.m.
Room 308 and Videoconference

RELATING TO SOCIAL WORK

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

Senate Bill No. 2375, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, amends Chapter 353H, HRS, and does the following: 1) require the Department of Public Safety (PSD), in collaboration with the Department of Human Services (DHS), to develop and establish a program to assist nonviolent incarcerated individuals in exploring a professional pathway in the practice of social work and becoming eligible for employment as assistants to licensed social workers; 2) require PSD and DHS to jointly submit progress reports to the Legislature on the development and establishment of the program, along with findings, recommendations, and proposed legislation; and 3) appropriate an unspecified amount of general funds to PSD for FY 23 for the development and establishment of the program.

B&F notes that, with respect to the general fund appropriation in this bill, the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act requires that states receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds and Governor's Emergency Education Relief II funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

Further, the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires that states receiving ARP ESSER funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The U.S. Department of Education has issued rules governing how these maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements are to be administered. B&F will be working with the money committees of the Legislature to ensure that the State of Hawai'i complies with these ESSER MOE requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
1177 Alakea Street, 6th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

MAX N. OTANI
DIRECTOR

Maria C. Cook
Deputy Director
Administration

Tommy Johnson
Deputy Director
Corrections

Jordan Lowe
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

No. _____

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2375, SENATE DRAFT 1, HOUSE DRAFT 2
RELATING TO SOCIAL WORK.

by
Max N. Otani, Director

House Committee on Finance
Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Kyle T. Yamashita, Vice Chair

Wednesday, April 6, 2022; 2:45 p.m.
Conference Room 308 and Via Videoconference

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) offers the following comments on Senate Bill (SB) 2375, Senate Draft (SD) 1, House Draft (HD) 2, which seeks to require PSD, in collaboration with the Department of Human Services (DHS), to develop and establish a social work training program to assist incarcerated non-violent individuals in exploring a professional pathway in the practice of social work, leading to their becoming eligible for employment as assistants to licensed social workers. If enacted, this measure would also require PSD and DHS to jointly provide progress reports to the Legislature prior to the convening of the 2023 and 2024 Legislative sessions. In addition, the measure appropriates an unspecified amount of funds for this initiative.

In general, PSD recognizes the need and value of increasing the number of trained and licensed social workers to help address community needs in dealing with societal stressors and mental health concerns, and that the lived experiences of

some nonviolent offenders may make them ideal candidates to work in the field of social work. The Department also recognizes that pursuit of any new educational program in the area of social work will require considerable time and resources in developing partnerships with institutions of higher education to develop and certify curricula and cultivate faculty resources, as well as commitments of physical infrastructure and educational support. Such an endeavor will require additional staffing for preparing PSD's internal structures, reviewing departmental policies and procedures, building partnerships with educational institutions to build out the new program as described above, and networking with community and agency stakeholders to assist in developing funding sources.

In addition, by policy, incarcerated offenders under the jurisdiction of PSD are not allowed to provide case management counseling for other offenders under the Department's jurisdiction. The foregoing shows the breadth and depth of the challenges in effecting this proposal. PSD, therefore, respectfully suggests that the Committee on Finance consider amending SB 2375, SD 1, HD 2 to create and fund a working group to explore both the proposal and identify and develop conceptually a viable plan to establish a social work training program in the Department.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SB 2375, SD 1, HD 2.

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

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

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



COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair

Representative Kyle Yamashita, Vice Chair

Wednesday, April 6, 2022

2:45 PM

STRONG SUPPORT FOR SB 2375 HD2 - EDUCATION: PATHWAYS TO SOCIAL WORK

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita 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 4,040 Hawai`i individuals living behind bars¹ under the “care and custody” of the Department of Public Safety on any given day. We are always mindful that 1,082 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.

Mahalo for this opportunity to share Community Alliance on Prisons’ strong support for SB 2375 HD2 that offers pathways to social work to nonviolent incarcerated. We appreciate the SD1 amendment that opens this opportunity to more persons and the NASW amendment that strengthens the bill by adding the highlighted language, “to assist nonviolent incarcerated individuals in exploring a professional pathway in the practice of social work and becoming eligible for employment as assistants to licensed social workers.”

Passage of this measure for incarcerated people who have lived experience in the system is a benefit to all. It is one thing to study an issue, and quite another to have lived experience that can offer new and innovative ways to lift up some of the most vulnerable people and families in our communities. What a great way to help people serving time plan for a successful reentry back to the community as contributing citizens!

People with the lived experience being part of the social service system have more than a textbook understanding of what is needed to lift up struggling families and individuals. By honoring their experience and helping them gain the tools to help others is a winning strategy that Community Alliance on Prisons wholeheartedly supports!

We ask the committee to support this measure and help people explore opportunities they might never have imagined possible!

¹ Department of Public Safety, Weekly Population Report, March 28, 2022.

<https://dps.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Pop-Reports-Weekly-2022-03-28.pdf>



SB2375 SD1 HD2 Offender Education for Social Work

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair

Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita, Vice Chair

Wednesday, Apr 6 2022: 2:45 : Videoconference

Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition Supports SB2375 SD1 HD2:

ALOHA CHAIR, VICE CHAIR AND DISTINGUISHED COMMITTEE MEMBERS. My name is Alan Johnson. I am the current chair of the Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition (HSAC), a statewide organization for substance use disorder and co-occurring mental health disorder treatment and prevention agencies.

There could be potential here.

A successful candidate for social work starts with education and includes:

1. Empathy, communication, organization
2. Commitment, ethics, patience
3. Active listening, critical thinking, cultural competence
4. Self-care, organization, and
5. Willingness to be trained and developed.

Successful reentry contains these elements *if needed*:

- 1. Substance use disorder treatment or co-occurring substance abuse and mental health treatment**
- 2. Mental health treatment (no substance abuse)**
- 3. Criminality programs to change attitudes and beliefs about crime.**
- 4. Housing**
- 5. Family reunification**
- 6. Employment and/or Education**
- 7. Support from Probation/Parole**
- 8. Case management as needed.**
- 9. Healthcare**
- 10. Mentoring**

Reentry is a highly cost-effective investment.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony and are available to answer questions. Aloha, HSAC

SB-2375-HD-2

Submitted on: 4/5/2022 4:12:31 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/6/2022 2:45:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Dara Carlin, M.A. | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Stand in Support.