

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 21, 2022

TO: The Honorable Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Cathy Betts, Director

SUBJECT: **SB 2647 SD1 – RELATING TO FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDERS.**

Hearing: February 24, 2022, 10:00 a.m.
Via Videoconference, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) appreciates the intent of this measure and offers comments. The department defers to the Department of Health and respectfully requests any current appropriation, not replace or reduce budget priorities identified in the executive budget.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the bill is to establish a temporary fetal alcohol spectrum disorders task force within the Department of Health for administrative purposes. Requires a report to the Legislature. Appropriates funds to establish and support the work of the task force. Effective 1/1/2050. (SD1) The SD1 amended the measure by:

- (1) Deleting the proposed special fund and replacing it with an appropriation to the Department of Health to establish and support the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Task Force;
- (2) Inserting an effective date of January 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion;
- (3) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purpose; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

The Department supports the task force's intent, and DHS will work with the task force to recommend guidelines, best practices, possible training curriculum for health and human services workers and educators, and teaching strategies for students with FASD. The Department also acknowledges that the community has long advocated for more resources dedicated to individuals and families impacted by FASD.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



ELIZABETH A. CHAR, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
PRINCESS VICTORIA KAMĀMALU BUILDING
1010 RICHARDS STREET, Room 122
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543
February 24, 2022

The Honorable Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
The Thirty-First Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawai'i
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator Dela Cruz and Committee Members,

SUBJECT: SB2647 SD1 Relating to Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders

The Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities **STRONGLY SUPPORTS SB2647 SD1** which establishes a temporary fetal alcohol spectrum disorders task force within the Department of Health for administrative purposes. Requires a report to the Legislature. Appropriates funds to establish and support the work of the task force.

The Council appreciates the legislature's efforts to address Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) over the years. FASD is a developmental disability; however, due to strict guidelines for state services provided to individuals with developmental disabilities, individuals with FASD typically do not qualify. While many symptoms of FASD can mirror mental health disorders because FASD is a developmental disability, these individuals may not qualify for mental health services. Due to the complexities of the service provision, individuals with FASD are considered a gap group within Hawaii. These individuals need supportive services, but the agency and program to provide the services have been left undefined.

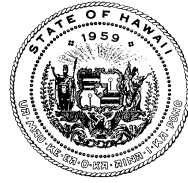
We hope this Task Force can find a way to braid services and funding needed to sustain support for this population. We are hopeful with the makeup of the Task Force that a solution for our individuals with FASD can be found. The Council respectfully has one recommendation: the Task Force also examines the past 16+ years of Hawaii State Legislation relating to FASD and various reports submitted to the Legislature.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **support of SB2647 SD1**.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daintry Bartoldus".

Daintry Bartoldus
Executive Administrator



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

WRITTEN
TESTIMONY ONLY

**Testimony COMMENTING on S.B. 2647 S.D. 1
RELATING TO FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDERS**

SENATOR DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Hearing Date: 2/24/2022

Room Number: Conference Rm 211
& Videoconference

1 **Fiscal Implications:** The Department of Health (DOH) will need additional funding for a
2 contract to support the establishment and work of the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD)
3 Task Force. The Department requests that passage of any appropriations in this measure does not
4 replace or adversely impact priorities in the Executive Budget request.

5 **Department Testimony:** The Department appreciates the intent of S.B. 2647 S.D. 1, which
6 establishes a temporary FASD Task Force within the DOH for administrative purposes and
7 appropriates funds to the DOH to support the establishment and work of the Task Force.

8 The Department does not have the expertise and/or resources to implement the request as
9 outlined in this measure which includes convening and facilitating Task Force meetings, working
10 with various departments, and supporting the Task Force in developing guidelines and
11 recommendations for government support of individuals with FASD, developing teaching
12 protocols, developing pathways for state departments to implement policies and procedures,
13 developing a timeframe for full implementation, and preparing a legislative report. Additionally,
14 there may be insufficient time to convene the task force, develop actionable recommendations,
15 propose legislation, and complete the report by the end of December 2022.

16 If the legislature decides to move forward with this measure, the Department will need \$100,000
17 for a contract to support the above work. The Department will participate on the Task Force.

18 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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

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

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 SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 2647, S.D. 1

February 24, 2022
10:00 a.m.
Room 211 and Videoconference

RELATING TO FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDERS

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

Senate Bill No. 2647, S.D. 1, establishes a fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD) task force within the Department of Health (DOH); requires the FASD task force to submit a report to the Legislature; sets a dissolution date of July 1, 2023, for the FASD task force; and appropriates an unspecified amount in general funds in FY 23 to DOH for the FASD task force.

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.



LATE

DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

1010 Richards Street, Room 118 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Ph. (808) 586-8121 (V) • Fax (808) 586-8129

February 24, 2022

TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senate Bill 2647, Senate Draft 1 – Relating to Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) supports Senate Bill 2647, Senate Draft 1 Relating to Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders. The bill would establish a temporary task force in the Department of Health to develop and report to the Legislature regarding guidelines, recommendations, and teaching protocols relating to fetal alcohol spectrum disorders.

Please consider a staff position and/or funds to contract for staff to develop a task force to develop and report on the guidelines, recommendations and teaching protocols relating to fetal alcohol spectrum disorders. Understanding fetal alcohol spectrum disorders and service needs are essential to improve the quality of life for individuals with disabilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony,

Respectfully submitted,

Kirstine Pagano

KIRBY L. SHAW
Executive Director



SB2647 SD1 Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Screening

[COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS](#)

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Thursday, Feb. 24, 2022: 10:00 am: Videoconference

Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition supports SB2647 SD1

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.

FASD is a preventable and treatable disability.

There are significant and increasingly improved interventions that are available for mental health issues such as Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder and other disorders.

With home-based and community-based healthcare supported by a Task Force to improve access to essential services, we can make a difference.

FASD is a problem in Hawaii and efforts can be made to prevent this devastating condition as well as to treat children and adults that would increase their functioning:

- FASD is a range of neurodevelopmental (brain-based) disabilities that can affect any person exposed to alcohol before birth.
- FASD effects may include physical, mental, behavioral, and/or learning disabilities with possible lifelong implications that often co-occur with substance abuse and mental health issues.
- Proactive health care programs and interventions can help people develop new learning and coping skills to help them improve functioning. Modifications to existing treatment models can be very effective.
- FASD is very expensive to healthcare with estimates that the lifetime costs for each person is estimated to be over \$2M.
- Individuals with FASD are involved with the criminal justice system at an alarming rate. Youth and young adults with FASD have a form of brain damage that may make it difficult for them to stay out of trouble with the law. Without the aid of proper treatment, they do not know how to deal with police, attorneys, judges, social workers, psychiatrists, corrections and probation officers, and others they may encounter.

We can make a difference:

- Understand the disorder and reshape some of our interventions to change a child's behavior and improve functionality.
- Reduce the prevalence of FASD.
- Empower care givers to help FASD people reach their full potential.
- Address stigma by educating our communities to understand the complexities of this disability while promoting a more inclusive culture.
- Greatly improve upon outcomes through measurement brought about by Medicaid funding.
- Reduce childhood trauma by increasing supports for high-risk families, building resilience, and improving access to treatment.

Working together, we can join the growing number of states that claim to be a “FASD-Informed State.”

We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony and are available for questions.

SB-2647-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2022 5:23:40 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/24/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Louis Erteschik	Testifying for Hawaii Disability Rights Center	Support	No

Comments:

This is an issue that has been a high priority of ours for several years. Section 1 of the bill very aptly lays out the nature and extent of the problem. Individuals with FASD fall into a true gap group. Given the fairly restrictive eligibility criteria for mental health or developmental disabilities services they may well not qualify for either. Yet they exhibit behavior that might parallel those conditions and have needs that are just as significant. Efforts in the past have focused on education about the dangers of alcohol consumption while pregnant. However, much more is needed. These people really need services. Forming a Task Force would be a good way to bring stakeholders together to help develop a plan to put that in place.

THE SENATE
THE THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2022

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

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

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

DATE: Thursday, February 24, 2022
TIME: 10:00 A.M.
PLACE: Conference Room 211 & Videoconference
TIMESLOT: WAM

POSITION: **STRONG SUPPORT SB2647, SD1**

Dearest Chair, Honorable Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz
and Vice Chair, Honorable Senator S.C Keith Agaran,

I am Darlyn Chen Scovell, a volunteer advocate for families and children with FASD (Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder) and the Hawaii FASD Action Group. Being the voice of children who have none and individuals with FASD who have been marginalized, unrecognized, and without help, attention, and services for many many years. I am writing in **STRONG SUPPORT of SB2647, SD1**

Again, I am humbly seeking your powerful support as I tirelessly pursue this volunteer work and my passion for creating services and raising awareness and education for FASD Children and Families of Hawaii. I am fortunate to have letters from our State Legislators sent to the Congressional Delegation to Capitol Hill to pursue all of our Washington, DC representatives to Co-Sponsor the FASD Respect Act. ALL of our representatives in Washington DC signed to Co-Sponsor S.2238 — 117th Congress (2021-2022) and H.R.4151 - FASD Respect Act - 17th Congress (2021-2022) Advancing FASD Research, Services, and Prevention Act or the FASD Respect Act. We need to have an action plan for our families and children with FASD in Hawaii with this inline. Our nation and the world now recognize this existing problem that needs action and support NOW.

The Federal Bill, The Respect Act, is garnering bipartisan support in Congress to fund the above areas for FASD. Our Congressional delegation has signed to co-sponsor The Respect Act, and there is a national effort to pass this legislation. The task force created by SB2647 will prepare plans and strategies to receive and apply these funds.

Hawaii lacks services. There are no FASD-informed programs dedicated to the prevention, screening, assessment, interventions, and research in Hawaii.

Effects of FASD are well known: 90% of individuals with FASD will develop comorbid mental health conditions; high rates of youth and adults with FASD struggle with independent living and employment; many children with a diagnosis of FASD won't qualify for DD services; nearly half of the adolescents and young adults with FASD encounter the justice system.

FASD diagnosis is a processing disorder, learning disability, and attention-deficit/ hyperactivity

disorders, almost the same as Autism Spectrum Disorders (Astley, 2010; Kodituwakku & Kodituwakku, 2014). Somewhere between 1% and 4% of all children worldwide have FASD. The NEURODEVELOPMENTAL IMPAIRMENTS associated with FASD came WITH SIGNIFICANT SOCIAL COST ACROSS THE LIFESPAN in increased medical, educational, and vocational support lost productivity (Lupton, Burd, & Harwood, 2004; Popova, Lange, Burd, & Rehm, 2015). I have worked with children with Autism as a Registered Behavioral Therapist under ABA Guidelines. In my observations, FASD is a Developmental Disability that is equally severe as Autism.

If the national data states that 1 in 20 first graders have FASD, we can make it 1 in 1,000 - 1 in 10,000, 100,000 even in 1 in a million because FASD is COMPLETELY PREVENTABLE BY CEASING ALCOHOL USE during pregnancy. FASD is an invisible disability because it does not have visible or observable disabilities, unlike other disabilities. They look like you and me, with normal features like everyone else around us. FASD exhibits a broad array of Neurodevelopmental impairments, such as deficits of adaptive function, attention, executive function, motor function, social cognition, verbal and non-verbal learning, and externalizing behaviors. The Disability Rights Center is supportive of my advocacy and also strongly sees the FASD needs in our State of Hawaii.

SB2647, SD1 is a solution to this predicament. Please let us work together to save Our Tomorrow, Today. Let us help these innocent children born in an impossible world impacted by alcohol thrive in the possibilities of tomorrow we can all create and provide. We must make their life and world possible for them as we made alcohol legal for public consumption. Hindsight: We will save our children, women, and families of Hawaii, and also our tax dollars when you support these Bills. Often, these children with FASD are seen as children with behavioral issues in our school system and get kicked out. Eventually, these children without no support will join into crime-committing and delinquent groups who end up in our prison systems as juveniles eventually as adult offenders. This costs our State \$55,000.00 a year per inmate, not to mention that our prison system is overpopulated, and we ship our State Inmates to other States, which costs us \$35,000.00 a year per inmate. This cost does not include property damages, medical, and other costs to our tax dollars.

Mental Health Problems - 60% of children with FASD have ADDH, and most individuals have clinical depression as adults; 23% of the adults had attempted suicide, and 43% had threatened to commit suicide. • Disrupted School Experience - 43% experienced suspension or expulsion or drop out; • Trouble with the Law - 42% had involvement with police, charged or convicted of a crime; • Confinement – 60% of these children age 12 and over experienced inpatient treatment for mental health, alcohol/drug problems, or incarceration for a crime. • Inappropriate Sexual Behavior – Reported in 45% of those aged 12 and over and 65% of adult males with FAS. • Alcohol/Drug Problems – Of the adults with FAS, 53% of males and 70% of females experienced substance abuse problems. These children who have the potential to become adult offenders can cost Hawaii \$55,000.00 a year in incarceration cost and more economic challenges in societal, property damages, and tax dollars. I do beg of you to support and consider SB2747 for the children and the families of Hawaii. BE TRUE TO YOUR PROMISE TO BE THERE FOR THE PEOPLE AND FAMILIES OF HAWAII; I TRUST IN YOU.

My dream and core aim through my advocacy are to decrease infants born with FASD in Hawaii and our Nation. Protecting Our Tomorrow Today.

Mahalo Nui Loa, for your kind consideration in passing SB2647, SD1 out of your committee and for the opportunity to testify.

Always with Gratitude.
Respectfully yours,
Darlyn Chen Scovell MA, CSAC, RBT

Reference

- Astley, S. J. (2010). Profile of the first 1,400 patients receiving diagnostic evaluations for fetal alcohol spectrum disorder at the Washington State Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Diagnostic & Prevention Network. *Canadian Journal of Clinical Pharmacology*, 17(1), e132–e164.
- Barker, C., Kulyk, J., Knorr, L., & Brenna, B. (2011). Open Inclusion or Shameful Secret: A Comparison of Characters with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) and Characters with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) in a North American Sample of Books for Children and Young Adults. *International Journal of Special Education*, 26(3), 171–180. Retrieved from <http://search.ebscohost.com.libproxy.edmc.edu/login.aspx?direct=true&db=Eric&ANEJ959010&site=eds-live>
- Kodituwaku, P., & Kodituwaku, E. (2014). Cognitive and behavioral profiles of children with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders. *Current Developmental Disorders Reports*, 1(3), 149–160. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40474-014-0022-6>
- Thorne, J. C. 1. jct6@uw. ed. (2017). Accentuate the Negative: Grammatical errors during narrative production as a clinical marker of central nervous system abnormality in school-aged children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders. *Journal of Speech, Language & Hearing Research*, 60(12), 3523–3537. <https://doi-org.libproxy.edmc.edu/10.1044/2017pass:JSLHR-L-17-01>



LATE

Hawaii Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Action Group

Board of Directors 2021

Ann S. Yabusaki, PhD, MFT
Founder, Director
Private Practice

Cleota G. Brown
President, Director
Community Advocate

Ken Yabusaki, Ph.D.
Treasurer, Director
Retired Biochemist

Alan Shinn, MSW
Retired
Director

Vivian Aiona
Director
Community Advocate

Sina P. Pili, MSW
Director
Behavioral Health Specialist

Stephanie W. Batzer, Esq., LSW
Secretary, Director
Child & Family Law
Child & Family Social Work

Isaiah Aina, MBA
Director
Financial Service Professional, Veteran

February 23, 2022

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, Ways and Means Committee
Hawaii State Legislature
31st Legislature, 2022
Hawaii State Capital
415 So. Beretania St.
Honolulu, Hi. 96813

RE: SB2647/HB1814 - Relating to Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders

Dear Senator Dela Cruz and WAM Committee Members:

Letter of support for SB2647

We, the undersigned residents of Hawaii and the Hawaii Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Action Group wholeheartedly support ***ACTION ON FASD SB2647***. The legislation will create a statewide FASD task force to develop guidelines and recommendations for governmental support of individuals and families affected by FASD. These bills will accelerate scientific discoveries, increase prevention and access to therapeutic rehabilitation services for pregnant women with alcohol use disorders and provide meaningful resources and relief to individuals and families living with the disorders.

We thank you for your attention to FASD and we welcome the opportunity to work with you to ensure the passage of this landmark legislation. If you have any questions, please contact the Hawaii FASD Action Group Legislative Team at hawaiifasdactiongroup@gmail.com

Mahalo nui loa,

President
Hawaii Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders FASD Action Group
FEIN 85-1001234

#	First name	Last name	Zip Code	#	First name	Last name	Zip Code	#	First name	Last name	Zip Code
1	Jacqueline	Hong	96701	46	Kathleen	Goslin	96792	91	Kristine	Altwies	96826
2	Jasmyn	Honda	96701	47	Alexander	Santiago	96792	92	Pauline	Mata'u	96762-1241
3	Cheryl	Kameoka	96701	48	Jake	Gumm	96792	93	Sina	Pili	96762-1241
4	Kuli'a	Aiona	96701	49	Kathleen	Goslin	96792	94	Sina	Pili	96762-1241
5	Susan	Kim	96706	50	Stephanie	Batzer	96797	95	Jamie	Omori	96782-3546
6	Robert	Chun	96707	51	Ramona	Payes	96797	96	Duke	Aiona	96786-2535
7	Cynthia	Spencer	96707	52	David	Nabea	96797	97	Nairobi	Matila	96819-1438
8	Carolyn	Miho	96712	53	Valerie	Lazo	96813	98	Jennifer	Wisdahl	20007
9	Judith	Wilhoite	96720	54	Deborah	Agles	96813				
10	Jeremy	Daniel	96731	55	Evan	Nakatsuka	96813				
11	Terra	Daniel	96731	56	Deborah	Agles	96813				
12	Beverly	Quon	96734	57	Sean	Sullivan	96813				
13	Andrea	Hiura	96734	58	Evelyn	Mizukami	96814				
14	Ben	Paly	96741	59	Jeffrey	Okamoto	96814				
15	Lila	Ota	96744	60	Jennifer	Ramos	96814				
16	Jay	Tsukayama	96744	61	Jonathan	Freitas	96814				
17	Pearla	Tsukayama	96744	62	Gail	Tice	96816				
18	Jesten	Moya	96744	63	ZsaZsa	Miranda	96816				
19	Sandra	Yamamoto	96744	64	Kristy	Kiesel	96816				
20	Sharon	Usagawa	96744	65	Allison	Ikeno	96816				
21	Laurie	Kawamura	96744	66	Tia	Ikeno	96816				
22	Ginny	WRIGHT	96744	67	Akiko	Tamura	96816				
23	Cherylle	Morrow	96744	68	Sai	Aganon	96816				
24	Cleota	Brown	96744	69	Akiko	Kitsutani	96816				
25	Jana Macy	Moya	96744	70	Amanda	Luning	96816				
26	Lee	Yabusaki	96744	71	Saifoloi	Aganon	96816				
27	KENICHI	YABUSAKI	96744	72	Julie	Percell	96816				
28	Ann	Yabusaki	96744	73	Jeannette	Choy	96817				
29	Carl	Brown	96744	74	Alan	Shinn	96817				
30	Janet	Berremman	96746	75	Rona	Fukumoto	96817				
31	David	Kennard	96746	76	Darlyn Chen	Scovell	96818				
32	Janet	Berremman	96746	77	Cheri	Soria	96818				
33	Laura	Ramirez	96746	78	Jasmine	Matila	96819				
34	Creelyn	Eisenberg	96761	79	Joe	Matila	96819				
35	Davis	Pili	96762	80	Kelly	Young	96819				
36	Manitila	Mata'u	96762	81	Arleene	Skillman	96822				
37	Pauline	Mata'u	96762	82	Monica	Szczupider	96822				
39	Davis	Pili	96762	83	Leanne	Kaya	96822				
40	Kathy	Dougherty	96766	84	Gigi	Davidson	96822				
41	James	Hague	96778	85	Ryan	Yamamoto	96822				
42	Irrinsul	Harp	96785	86	Keilyn	Ah Yat	96825				
43	Vivian	Aiona	96786	87	Susan	Oka	96825				
44	Mason	Dimond	96789	88	Gill	Berger	96825				
45	mark	matsushita	96789	89	Dawn Morais	Webster	96825				
				90	Jennifer	Hayashi	96826				

Full names and addresses are available upon request. Email hawaii fasdactiongroup@gmail.com

LATE

SB-2647-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 5:22:12 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/24/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Vivian Aiona	Testifying for Hawaii Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Action Group	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha!

As a board member of the *Hawaii Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Action Group*,

I strongly support the passing of Senate Bill 2647.

As stated in Part I of the Bill:

*"The legislature finds that fetal alcohol spectrum disorders are **lifelong** physical, developmental, behavioral, and intellectual disabilities caused by brain damage due to prenatal alcohol exposure.*

*According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, these disorders impact as many as **ONE IN TWENTY** first graders in the United States, and are **MORE PREVALENT** than autism disorders, spina bifida, cerebral palsy, and Down Syndrome **COMBINED**."*

Education, Advocacy and Research is desperately needed for the families and children living with FASD in Hawaii!

Thank you for your VOTE and your KOKUA, for our Keiki & Ohana.

Vivian Aiona



To: The Honorable Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: Support of SB2647 SD1, Relating to Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.

Hrg: Thursday, February 24, 2022 at 10:00am via Videoconference

Position: Support

The Alcohol Policy Alliance, which is fiscally managed by the Hawai'i Public Health Institute, would like to provide testimony in **SUPPORT of SB2647 SD1**. SB2647 SD1 would establish an FASD taskforce that will help advance the science and prevention of FASD in Hawai'i.

Fetal alcohol spectrum disorder is an invisible disability affecting an increasing number of Hawaii's population with very little awareness and support. This legislation will create a vital statewide FASD task force to develop guidelines and recommendations for governmental support of individuals and families affected by FASD. This bill will accelerate scientific discoveries, increase prevention and access to therapeutic rehabilitation services for pregnant women with alcohol use disorders and provide meaningful resources and relief to individuals and families living with the disorders.

This is a step forward for our communities dealing with the impact of FASD and will help Hawai'i prepare to better serve the increasing numbers.

Thank you for your attention to passing this critically important legislation.

Mahalo for your time and attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Collins" followed by the initials "CPS".

Rick Collins
Director

February 5, 2022

To: The Honorable Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair,
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: Strong Support of SB2647, Relating To Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders

Hrg: Thursday, February 24, 2022 at 10:00 am

Position: Support

Good morning, Chairperson Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means. My name is Ann Yabusaki from Kaneohe, Hawaii. Thank you so much for the opportunity to submit testimony on SB2647. I strongly support the establishment of a statewide task force to develop guidelines, recommendations, and teaching protocols for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) for the following reasons:

1. **Hawaii lacks services.** There are no FASD-informed programs dedicated to the prevention, screening, assessment, interventions, and research in Hawaii.
2. **The Federal Bill, The Respect Act,** is garnering bipartisan support in Congress to fund the above areas for FASD. Our Congressional delegation has signed to co-sponsor The Respect Act, and there is a national effort to pass this legislation. The task force created by SB2647 will prepare plans and strategies to receive and apply these funds.
3. **Effects of FASD are well known:** 90% of individuals with FASD will develop comorbid mental health conditions; high rates of youth and adults with FASD struggle with independent living and employment; many children with a diagnosis of FASD won't qualify for DD services; nearly half of the adolescents and young adults with FASD encounter the justice system.
4. **Prevalent and growing:** One in 20 first graders are affected by FASD. We must address the impact of FASD on all our care systems and, most importantly, the unimaginable costs to individuals and families affected by FASD.

As a psychologist, I am constantly searching and creating services for my clients and would greatly appreciate the help of other support systems. We must create FASD-informed services to help people affected by FASD thrive and reach their potential for a meaningful life.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Respectfully,
Ann S. Yabusaki, Ph.D., LMFT

SB-2647-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2022 6:33:16 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/24/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Sina Pili	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

Thank you for the opportunity to set this meaningful issue on your agenda for hearings. I support SB 2647 & HB 1814. We are parents of a child diagnosed with FASD. We understand the importance to have specialist in FASD to educate, inform, and provide appropriate and correct interventions according to our child's needs. We know this because we have experienced having service providers not know or understand FASD and incorrectly service him which was damaging to his social and emotional state while creating an environment he could not thrive in because they did not understand FASD. When we took it upon ourselves to teach the service providers about his diagnosis and how to provide appropriate support according to his need & disability, we were then able to create an environment he now continues to thrive in.

We support SB 2647 and know that the FASD workforce task will mitigate that gap to inform, educate, and provide important stakeholders & state agencies that provide services to our children to help them develop and positively thrive.

Davis & Sina Pili

Parent Advocates

SB-2647-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2022 5:09:40 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/24/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kelvin Ching	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support this bill. Too many children are not able to get the proper help and diagnosis. In the long run this will be costly for all of us. As a state we need more education on this topic. Too many choose to look the other way. Minds need to be open to accept new information. Please open your minds and eyes to this disorder.

Respectfully,

Kelvin

SB-2647-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2022 2:55:06 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/24/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Cleota Brown	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Members of the Senate's Ways and Means Committee:

I strongly support SB 2647 Action For FASD

For 13 years, the State of Hawaii has not funded or made FASD a priority. Children and families are suffering with misdiagnosis, no diagnosis and a lack of public support.

Prenatal alcohol exposure (PAE) is the most commonly known cause of developmental disabilities in the United States and is a significant public health issue, exasperated by the pandemic crisis, increased use of alcohol, binge drinking and increasing mental health issues. PAE is critically harmful to a fetus' developing brain resulting in fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD), impacting all facets of a child's life.

Alarming gaps exist in FASD-related diagnostic and clinical resources in Hawaii. Among medical and behavioral health professionals, inconsistent use or limited knowledge of diagnostic criteria and clinical guidelines result in many (if not most) children and adults living with FASD going undiagnosed or misdiagnosed.

Families in Hawaii, and especially the child welfare system, struggle with FASD, and they cannot find systems of care that are familiar with or equipped to diagnose and address FASD-related disabilities. FASD funding was halted in Hawaii in 2009 after Federal Funds were cut.

FASD affects every sector of Hawaii's society and the costs to our state are immeasurable.

- 94% of those affected by FASD have mental health issues
- 95% cannot live independently
- 80% have employment difficulties
- 70% have trouble in school
- 60% have trouble with the law
- 50% of adults with an FASD abuse drugs and alcohol
- 45% have legal problems with sexual behaviors

These are all social determinants that can contribute and lead to homelessness and imprisonment. The estimated annual cost to Hawaii for FASD is over \$876M while raising a child with FASD costs 30X more than the cost of successful prevention efforts.

SB 2647 simply asks the State of Hawaii to put a focus on FASD by developing a task force of public and private resources to study and bring forward recommendations for a disability that is 100% preventable. I ask you to consider all the issues surrounding FASD and take action now to help those that are most vulnerable in our State's population.

Sincerely yours,

Cleota G. Brown

cleota.brown@gmail.com

(808) 258-5874

SB-2647-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 3:31:37 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/24/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
mark matsushita	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Good afternoon, Chair San Buenaventura, Vice-Chair Ihara, and members of the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services and Chair Keohokalole, Vice-Chair Baker, and Members of the Senate Committee on Health. My name is Mark Matsushita from Mililani, Hawaii. Thank you so much for the opportunity to submit testimony on SB2647, SD1. I strongly support the establishment of a statewide task force to develop guidelines, recommendations, and teaching protocols for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) for the following reasons:

1. **Hawaii lacks services.** There are no FASD-informed programs dedicated to the prevention, screening, assessment, interventions, and research in Hawaii.
2. **The Federal Bill, The Respect Act,** is garnering bipartisan support in Congress to fund the above areas for FASD. Our Congressional delegation has signed to co-sponsor The Respect Act, and there is a national effort to pass this legislation. The task force created by SB2647 will prepare plans and strategies to receive and apply these funds.
3. **Effects of FASD are well known:** 90% of individuals with FASD will develop comorbid mental health conditions; high rates of youth and adults with FASD struggle with independent living and employment; many children with a diagnosis of FASD won't qualify for DD services; nearly half of the adolescents and young adults with FASD encounter the justice system.
4. **Prevalent and growing:** One in 20 first graders are affected by FASD. We must address the impact of FASD on all our care systems and, most importantly, the unimaginable costs to individuals and families affected by FASD.

As a psychologist, I am constantly searching and creating services for my clients and would greatly appreciate the help of other support systems.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Respectfully,

Mark Matsushita LMFT, CSAC

Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist

Certified Substance Abuse Counselor

To:

Hawaii Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

For:

SB 2647, SD 1

Date:

Friday, February 24, 2022 at 10:00am

Where:

Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 211& Videoconference

Aloha, Hawaii Senate Committee on Ways and Means, Chair Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Gilbert Keith-Agaran, and respective committee members. My name is Creelyn Eisenberg. I am a Maui resident, a community mental health worker, and a master of social work student at UH Mānoa's School of Social Work and Public Health. However, with appreciation, I submit testimony today on behalf of myself in **strong support of SB 2647, SD 1– Relating to Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.**

I am in support of SB 2647, SD1, for many reasons. Currently, in Hawai'i and the US, there is limited Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) research, prevention, and intervention services. Establishing an FASD task force will give us a better understanding of the disorder, how it affects our community, and will allow us to serve better the individuals and families affected by FASD. With further knowledge of FASD, we could likely increase support for individuals and families, render a proper diagnosis, improve lifelong outcomes, and fight the stigma associated with misinformation. Supporting this bill can also potentially decrease the number of incarcerated individuals and save tax dollars. Lastly, SB 2647, SD 1, will benefit

efforts in prevention and intervention and family planning. FASD is avoidable and preventable with abstinence of alcohol while pregnant.

Thank you for your time and consideration on SB 2647, SD1, and for this opportunity to provide testimony as well.

Respectfully,

Creelyn Eisenberg

SB-2647-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 8:53:31 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/24/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Douglas Kainoa Dang	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill

SB-2647-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 1:49:13 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/24/2022 10:00:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Jeremy Daniel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am the parent of a child with an FASD. An estimated 1 in 20 Kindergartners have an FASD. Many of them will eventually end up in the corrections system, homeless, and/or struggling with a severe lack of life skills and support throughout their entire lives.

This is a civil rights issue and, respectfully stated, the State of Hawaii currently does not do anything for this population. 1 in 20 is a big number. To give context, individuals on the autism spectrum account for 1 in 44, and they have MANY services and supports and lots of funding.

This temporary task force will not even begin to solve this problem, but it will serve as an excellent step in the right direction. To not create it would be irresponsible on a level of basic human decency.

To not provide support for individuals with an FASD is also fiscally irresponsible to the interests of the State. Up to 60% of individuals with an FASD will find themselves in the corrections system at some point in their lives (<http://jaapl.org/content/early/2020/02/12/JAAPL.003886-20>). If you look up the impacts of FASD on homelessness, prostitution, and other costly issues, you will clearly see that it costs far more to ignore the situation than it will to address it.

Thank you for considering my testimony. I can be reached for additional comments and questions at jdaniel7622@gmail.com.

Mahalo,

Jeremy Daniel
Kahuku, HI

LATE

SB 2647 Relating to FASD

Strong Support

Chair, Vice Chair and Committee Members

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Please support the passage of this bill which better informs services for Hawai`i and supports improved outcomes.

Cindi Dang, Psy.D.