



HAWAI`I YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

677 Ala Moana Blvd., Suite 904

Honolulu, Hawai`i 96813

Phone: (808) 489-9549

Web site: <http://www.hysn.org> E-mail: info@hysn.org

Vonnell Ramos, President
Cyd Hoffeld, Vice President
Sione Ford Naeata, Treasurer
Jefferson Gourley, Secretary

Judith F. Clark, Executive
Director

Network Membership

- Bay Clinic*
- Big Brothers Big Sisters Hawai`i*
- Big Island Substance Abuse
Council*
- Bobby Benson Center*
- Child and Family Service*
- Coalition for a Drug-Free Hawai`i*
- Collins Consulting, LLC*
- Domestic Violence Action Center*
- EPIC `Ohana, Inc.*
- Family Programs Hawai`i*
- Family Support Hawai`i*
- Friends of the Children's Justice
Center of Maui*
- Get Ready Hawai`i*
- Hale Kipa, Inc.*
- Hale `Opio Kaua`i, Inc.*
- Hawai`i Children's Action
Network*
- Hawai`i Health & Harm
Reduction Center*
- Ho`ola Na Pua*
- Ho`okele Coalition of Kaua`i*
- Ka Hale Pomaika`i*
- Kahi Mohala*
- Kokua Kalihi Valley*
- Kaua`i Planning and Action
Alliance*
- Maui Youth and Family Services*
- Na Pu`uwai Molokai Native
Hawaiian Health Care
Systems*
- P.A.R.E.N.T.S., Inc.*
- Parents and Children Together*
- PHOCUSED*
- PFLAG – Kona, Big Island*
- Planned Parenthood of the
Great Northwest, Hawaii
Alaska, Kentucky, Indiana*
- Residential Youth Services
& Empowerment (RYSE)*
- Salvation Army Family
Intervention Services*
- Sex Abuse Treatment Center*
- Susannah Wesley Community
Center*
- The Catalyst Group*

March 23, 2023

To Representative David Tarnas, Chair,
And members of the Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
SB 45 SD 1 HD 1 RELATING TO MINORS**

Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN) supports SB 45 SD 1 HD 1
Relating to the Youth Commission.

This bill is similar to other right to consent by minors statutes already in place in Hawaii. Minors have the right to consent for primary and preventive health care, mental health services, and emergency shelter admission. These rights were granted because obtaining consent from parents or guardian may not be feasible or reasonable, or he parent/guardian refuses to consent. If the minor is unable to obtain such shelter, medical or mental health services, the consequences may be life threatening.

If minors are who are threatened or abused by others cannot obtain a restraining order, the result may be serious injury or death. HYSN believes that passing this bill will increase the safety and well-being of our youth.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Judith F. Clark, MPH
Executive Director



HAWAI'I STATE
COALITION AGAINST
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

March 24, 2023

Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Chair David A. Tarnas

Vice Chair Gregg Takayama

Rep. Sonny Ganaden

Rep. Troy N. Hashimoto

Rep. Daniel Holt

Rep. Linda Ichiyama

Rep. Greggor Ilagan

Rep. Sam Satoru Kong

Rep. John M. Mizuno

Rep. Kanani Souza

Re: SB45 SD1 HD1 Relating to Minors

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs:

The Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence (HSCADV) addresses the social, political, and economic impacts of domestic violence on individuals, families, and communities. We are a statewide partnership of domestic violence programs and shelters.

On behalf of HSCADV and our 28 member programs statewide, I respectfully submit testimony in **support of SB45 SD1 HD1**. Teen dating violence is a serious problem. The CDC's Youth Risk Behavior Survey in 2019¹ found approximately 1 in 12 high school students experience physical dating violence and approximately 1 in 12 experience sexual dating violence. We recognize the fear minors experience telling their parent or legal guardian that a romantic relationship is abusive, especially if they did not have their parent or legal guardian's consent to engage in that relationship.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

Sincerely,
Angelina Mercado, Executive Director

¹ <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/intimatepartnerviolence/teendatingviolence/fastfact.html>

SB-45-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/23/2023 1:30:23 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/24/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nonohe Botelho	Hawaii Coalition for Child Protective Reform	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Hawaii Coalition for Child Protective Reform OPPOSE SB45, HD1, We understand the concern and intent of this measure but we think this would set a very dangerous precedent for parental rights and have unintended consequences for all involved.

TO: Representative David Tarnas, Chair
Representative Gregg Takayama, Vice Chair
House Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs Committee Members

FROM: Dara Carlin, M.A.
Domestic Violence Survivor Advocate

DATE: March 24, 2023

RE: STRONG OPPOSITION to SB45 SD1 HD1

Good Afternoon, Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama & House Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs Committee Members,

While SB45 SD1 HD1 sounds like a good idea, I am ALARMINGLY concerned about professionals reaching the conclusion or deeming that a minor's parents are "unable" to petition for a protective order on their own child's behalf then ***proceeding with legal action potentially without the parents' awareness and/or consent.***

Third parties intervening on behalf of a child who is not their own completely undermines parental authority and rights!

Other steps would need to be in-place before such an over-reach should be allowed to take place (ie: documented proof that school staff tried to notify, inform, communicate and involve parents before taking such action).

Professionals utilizing this mechanism could inadvertently initiate very serious repercussions for the parents (ie: Child Welfare Services investigation/involvement) since enacting this procedure formally and legally labels parents as "unable to petition on a minor's behalf" (which could be misconstrued as "unwilling" to petition = neglect, a CWS actionable offense).

Edwin Flores of Ala Kuola graciously comes to the aid of individuals to assist them in completing TRO paperwork and protection so incapacity and physical restrictions have not been and are not a concern.

Emancipated minors are emancipated so there should be nothing barring them from seeking and obtaining a TRO but 16 year-old minors who remain under parental authority is an entirely different matter! So what will happen when a 16 year-old obtains a TRO in secret that will effectively cover her/his friends, family members, place of domicile, work and school environments? How do you think the parents will feel about an unrelated third party professional acting in their stead without their knowledge or permission?

I completely understand the concern and intent of this measure but I think this would set a very dangerous precedent for parental rights and have unintended consequences for all involved.

Respectfully,

Dara Carlin, M.A.

Domestic Violence Survivor Advocate