



3/11/23

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair and members of the Committee, On behalf of Grandparents Rights Hawaii Campaign, I strongly am in support of bill SB406 SD1

I ulu no ka lala i ke kumu

The branches grow because of the trunk.

‘Olelo No‘eau- #1261

Referring to the above ‘olelo No‘eau grandparents lay the foundation for their mo‘opuna in order for them to grow. In Hawai‘i there are many grandparent’s whom would like to take on the responsibility in caring or to maintain visitation rights for their mo‘opuna in circumstances such as; death, incarceration, neglect, abuse etc.. How can something so crucial for a keiki’s success in life be denied!

Please pass bill SB406 SD1. This bill will allow grandparents to have the opportunity to be present in their mo‘opuna life. This pilina is so critical in the upbringing of keiki who have experienced loss, illness, trauma etc.. This promotes positive relationships with the ‘ohana, keiki and others whom is very special to keiki. This is putting our mo‘opuna first! Guiding them on the path to having a successful life as an adult!

Photos- Grandparents Rights Hawaii sign-waving



Mahalo in allowing me share the reasoning I support SB406 SD1

Ashlynn Victorino on behalf of Grandparents Rights Hawaii Campaign

3/11/2023

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair and members of the Committee,

I am in support of SB406 SD1 and here are my reasons why.

As a keiki growing up in Hawaii, I was brought up close to my kupuna. I thrived off the relationship and it made me who I am today. I can say it is a very important for kupuna to have a close bond with their mo'opuna because it will instill kuleana and aloha to the upbringing of keiki. Unfortunately Hawaii does not have grandparent's visitation rights and I would like for you to take into consideration SB406 for the future generation of mo'opuna.

Mahalo for the opportunity to speak on behalf of my support for SB406.

Michelle Galdones



SB-406-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/12/2023 10:24:03 AM

Testimony for HUS on 3/14/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Devany Encencio	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

My name is Devany Encencio and I strongly agree in support of SB406 relating to child visitation of a non custodial parent. I believe grandparents are a big impact on our lives. As A child growing up when my parents we unable to care for me my moopuna raised me. The bond we share is so special. That's why I belive this bill should be passed. Mahalo for all you time and support.

Mahalo,

Devany Encencio

SB-406-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/12/2023 10:27:41 AM

Testimony for HUS on 3/14/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tristy-lee Paiva	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Chairman & Committee,

My name is Tristy-lee Paiva 19 Yr Old resident of Hilo, Hawaii. I've been submitting testimony's since 2021 for hope of passing Bill SB406 , I hope this year you guys can help make a difference. Grandparents are an essential in Grandchildren's lives, my Grandparents are an essential in mine. They helped raise me while my parents were at work i'd always look forward to going & I couldn't bear to not have them in my life. If you help us pass Bill SB406 you'd change Grandparents & Grandchildrens lives those who can't see them because of bitterness between Parents & Grandparents.

Mahalo for your time,

Tristy-lee Paiva

SB-406-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/12/2023 5:34:35 PM

Testimony for HUS on 3/14/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Corey Hanselman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice chair and members of the community! I am in FULL support of this bill. Growing up, I was raised by my grandmother. Not because I didn't have my parents, but because, they were working to provide and make an income to live in such a place we call home. My dad worked day shifts and my mother would work nights, so that one of them could be home for pick ups and drop offs, however my grandmother was the backbone and glue of the family. Always making sure the house was clean, dinner was cooked, and us kids were being looked after and taken cared of. Grandparents play a huge role in children lives.

I'm sure you've heard the term "it takes a village"? That couldn't be more true. Having 3 children myself, it is crucial for my kids to have that same constant! That stability! Although most of us are considered adults, we need our parents to help us be the best we can for our next generation. We need them to help teach, to show what respect is in the olden ways, to just tell them stories of the old times, to show them love and care that we may sometimes forget because we are so caught up in just surviving the day to day.

Life here in Hawaii is changing. Children need to see their family, and be with loved ones. Grandparents are so important in a child's life! I really hope you take this testimony into consideration and I ask you to think about your childhood, and ask yourself this, "what would my life had been like if I didn't have my grandma or grandpa"? And if you're lucky enough to still have them here on this earth, think about how sad it would be too lose them! That in itself should be an easy answer as to why this bill should be passed!

This would help all children, all our youth and the community! Thank you for taking this time to read my testimony!

SB-406-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/12/2023 6:37:30 PM

Testimony for HUS on 3/14/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kanani Duldulao	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and committee members,

My name is Kanani. I come from a big family there is 6 of us in our family and many hanai that my parents always took in. My mother & father helped raised & houses many children without question and always helped others never asking anything in return. With so many kids in our family there's plenty of grandkids and the family grows. I have seen times where my siblings or their other half have a falling out with my parents, causing them to withhold my my nieces and nephews from seeing my parents. It tore my parents apart and broke their hearts from not being able to see them. Also due to the fact that the kids was still young to understand the situation they had no say on the matter. I believe that having this bill in Hawaii will help parents not have to worry about not being able to see their grandkids anymore or making sure the children get the opportunity to be able to bond with their grandparents. I feel grandparents are an important role in our childhood and values we grow up with. Grandparents help us know where our times are from and what we have now is from them and what we learn and instill in our life is important. Family is important wether blood or not and being able to know that your family is there willing to go to court to get rights to visitation just to be there for you growing up. Show the child that they didn't just abandon and give up on them , they are there all the way and fighting to be there to watch them grow up. I support Bill 406 so if I ever have grandchildren I want to know that I won't have to worry or go thru the hurt my parents went thru. Please help us with this Bill and pass it so future grandparents would not need to worry. Thank you for your time and giving me this opportunity to say my testimony. I appreciate all you have done and hope it continues.

Mahalo

Kanani KWN Duldulao

SB-406-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/12/2023 9:27:45 PM

Testimony for HUS on 3/14/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cheryl Silva	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Cheryl K. Silva, I'm 42 years old and I reside in Hilo, Hawaii. I am submitting my testimony in support of Bill SB406. I was born and raised here in Hilo and my parents were divorced by the time I reached middle school. Throughout the divorce and after, my maternal grandmother was a great support for me and my siblings. Although I am not a grandparent, I know the importance of having a loving grandparent in a child's life. My own grandmother was a companion, teacher, story teller, counselor, cook, supporter and more to me. I pray other children can be just as blessed as I was and other loving grandparents have the chance to be the same to their grandchildren.

A child who receives the love and time growing up with both maternal and paternal sides of their family, is a blessing. It's from family we learn basic skills, both family and cultural traditions and one's genealogy. A child learns and gains morals and values as well. Grandparents as the heads of the family, with more life experiences and knowledge are the best to help parents guide the children. One less child who is not suffering from feeling abandoned, anger issues, not knowing who they are and where they come from, can only be a benefit to oneself, family and community.

I know there are some cases where grandparents may have done harm to their grandchildren. But, I believe every case is different and we must not let a few bad ones ruin it, for the ones who deserve to be a part of their grandchildren's life. Why should children lose half of their family, because someone else says so. Let all grandparents have a fighting chance to be a part of their grandchildren's lives. There are different ways to go about monitoring each case while it is opened. There is supervised visits, counseling for the children, so they can be heard as well and family counseling. Those are just some of the examples. While I understand it takes time and money, every child is worth those efforts and every grandparent deserves to have a chance.

Thank you all for your time and consideration,

Cheryl K. Silva

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair and members of the Committee,

My name is Misty Kuheana and I strongly support SB406 SD-1.

I believe the necessary steps were taken in amending this measure to satisfy any existing federal and state precedent.

I myself am a grandparent of a child whose parent is deceased . It is my hope that you pass this bill to re-unite kupuna and mo'opuna once and for all.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

*Misty Kuheana
!834 Auwae rd. Hilo,HI 96720*