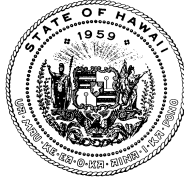


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII
KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'



KENNETH S. FINK, M.D., M.G.A, M.P.H
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

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

Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1541
RELATING TO SUICIDE PREVENTION AND AWARENESS MONTH

REPRESENTATIVE DAVID A. TARNAS, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Hearing Date: February 21, 2024 2:00 pm Room: 325/Video

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** None
- 2 **Department Position:** The Department of Health supports this measure.
- 3 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health provides the following testimony. Hawaii
- 4 Suicide Prevention Month was passed as ACT 36 in 2019. However the date was incorrect.
- 5 This bill changes the effective date to July 1, 2024. Suicide currently remains an issue for Hawaii
- 6 with over 200 suicides per year. This bill, if enacted, will help educate the public on suicide
- 7 prevention.
- 8 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.