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Deputy Director
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Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

SYLVIA LUKE
LT GOVERNOR
KE KE'ENA

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

Ka 'Oihana Ho'okō Kānāwai

715 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2253, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO HEALTH

Before the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Friday, February 16, 2024; 2:00 p.m.

State Capitol Conference Room 325, Via Videoconference

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, and members of the Committee:

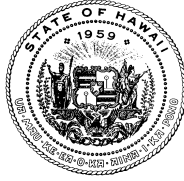
The Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) **supports** House Bill 2253, House Draft 1.

The bill proposes to: 1) Encourage law enforcement officers to carry an opioid antagonist while on-duty, 2) Authorize law enforcement officers to administer an opioid antagonist, 3) Establish immunity for law enforcement officers who administer an opioid antagonist during an opioid-related drug overdose, 4) Require the Department of Health to establish education and training for law enforcement personnel, and 5) Require the Department of Health to require that all restaurants and hotel establishments maintain an inventory of naloxone.

This bill recognizes that not every situation should require every law enforcement officer to carry an opioid antagonist on duty. By encouraging the carrying of an opioid antagonist while on duty, this bill addresses situations where plainclothes, and especially undercover officers may not be able to carry an opioid antagonist on duty because of their covert assignments. This bill also provides options to law enforcement agencies in the flexibility of addressing the additional expenses relating to the purchase of pouches to carry the opioid antagonists. These concerns are reduced if the opioid

antagonists could be kept accessible while on duty, like the accessibility of these drugs practiced by EMS agencies and fire departments where they are kept aboard ambulances or fire trucks.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this bill.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
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WRITTEN
TESTIMONY ONLY

**Testimony COMMENTING on HB2253 HD1
RELATING TO HEALTH**

REPRESENTATIVE DAVID TARNAS, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

February 16, 2024, 2:00 PM Room Number: 325

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Undetermined

2 **Department Position:** The Department supports the intent of this measure and provides
3 comments.

4 **Department Testimony:** The Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division (ADAD) provides the
5 following testimony on behalf of the Department.

6 The measure permits law enforcement officers to carry an opioid antagonist while on-duty and
7 are authorized to administer an opioid antagonist to an individual experiencing an opioid-related
8 drug overdose. The bill requires county general revenues or opioid litigation proceeds be used by
9 the respective counties to purchase opioid antagonist to be used law enforcement officers. It
10 permits the Department to establish education and training on drug overdose response and
11 treatment for law enforcement officers as well as saying they may require all restaurants and
12 hotels maintain an inventory of an opioid antagonist.

13 While the Department supports the use of opioid antagonists to save lives, permitting them to
14 carry an opioid antagonist is a matter to be decided by each law enforcement agency.

15 The Department also defers to each county on the requirement to purchase opioid antagonists
16 used by a law enforcement officer from county general funds or opioid litigation funds.

1 The Department already does education and training on drug overdose response. The ADAD
2 currently partners with the Hawaii High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (Hawaii HIDTA) to
3 implement a current overdose grant from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and which
4 provides trainings on how to use naloxone, an opioid antagonist. This training is still available to
5 law enforcement by request.

6 **Offered Amendments:** None.

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

POLICE DEPARTMENT
KA 'OIHANA MĀKA'I O HONOLULU
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
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RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR
MEIA



ARTHUR J. LOGAN
CHIEF
KAHU MĀKA'I
KEITH K. HORIKAWA
RADE K. VANIC
DEPUTY CHIEFS
HOPE LUNA NUI MĀKA'I

OUR REFERENCE **DM-SK**

February 16, 2024

The Honorable David A. Tarnas, Chair
and Members
Committee on Judiciary and
Hawaiian Affairs
House of Representatives
415 South Beretania Street, Room 325
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Tarnas and Members:

SUBJECT: House Bill No. 2253, H.D. 1, Relating to Health

I am Donn Manzano, Acting Captain of the Training Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD supports House Bill No. 2253, H.D. 1, Relating to Health.

The HPD recognizes the importance of a quick response to individuals who may be suffering from an opioid overdose and the importance of immediate, life-saving measures in such situations.

The HPD urges you to support House Bill No. 2253, H.D. 1, Relating to Health.

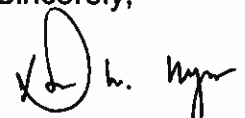
Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:

For 

Arthur J. Logan
Chief of Police

Sincerely,


Donn Manzano, Acting Captain
Training Division



Date: February 16, 2024

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University of Hawai'i at Hilo

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Department of Pediatrics

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Kaiser Permanente

Dina Shek, JD
Medical-Legal Partnership
For Children in Hawai'i

Garret Sugai
HMSA

JoAnn Tsark, MPH
John A. Burns School of Medicine,
Native Hawaiian Research Office

HIPHI Initiatives

Coalition for a
Tobacco-Free Hawai'i

Community-Based Research &
Evaluation

Community Health
Worker Initiatives

COVID-19 Response

Environmental Health

Hawai'i Drug & Alcohol-Free
Coalitions

Hawai'i Farm to School Hui

Hawai'i Oral Health Coalition

Hawai'i Public Health Training Hui

Healthy Eating + Active Living

Kūpuna Collective/Healthy Aging
& Community Living

Public Health Workforce
Development

To: Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair
Representative Gregg Takayama, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Re: Support for **HB 2253 HD1** Relating to Health

Mtg: Friday, February 16, 2024 2:00 PM

Hawai'i Public Health Instituteⁱ (HIPHI) respectfully submits testimony in **Support of HB2253 HD1**. This measure would permit law enforcement officers to carry an opioid antagonist while on duty, addresses administrative issues including the establishment of immunity for law enforcement officers who administer it, creates an education & training through the Department of Health (DOH), and allows the DOH to require all restaurants and hotels to maintain an inventory of naloxone.

This policy is an important one that will help to address the increasing deaths from opioids in our communities. It is important for law enforcement to have quick access to an opioid antagonist, similar to EMS and Fire.

Naloxone is a highly effective opioid receptor antagonist, which can counter the effects of an overdose when administered immediately, are highly effective. The fast acting effect of this medicine has saved people's lives. It is so effective and safe that the FDA has approved it for over the counter sales.

Thank you for considering our testimony this measure that supports public health.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Peggy Mierzwa'.

Peggy Mierzwa
Director of Policy & Advocacy
Hawai'i Public Health Institute

ⁱ The Hawai'i Public Health Institute (HIPHI) is a hub for building healthy communities, providing issue-based advocacy, education, and technical assistance through partnerships with government, academia, foundations, business, and community-based organizations.