



**WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
KA 'OIHANA O KA LOIO KUHINA
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2025**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

H.B. NO. 874, H.D. 3, S.D. 1, RELATING TO CHILD PERFORMERS.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEES ON JUDICIARY AND ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

DATE: Tuesday, April 1, 2025

TIME: 9:30 a.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 016

TESTIFIER(S): **WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY.**

(For more information, contact Jung Yun Ha,
Deputy Attorney General, at (808) 586-1450 or
jungyun.ha@hawaii.gov)

Chairs Rhoads and Keohokalole and Members of the Committees:

The Department of the Attorney General provides the following comments.

The bill amends chapter 554B, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), to add a new section to require the parent or legal guardian of a minor in theatrical employment to establish a trust account for the minor's benefit. The bill also creates a private right of action for the minor child to pursue a claim against a parent or legal guardian for civil penalties, provides for potential criminal prosecution for any misappropriation or fraudulent use of the funds by the parent or legal guardian, or an independent third-party trustee, and in the case of the third-party trustee, removal from the position of trustee.

In the new section proposed to be added to chapter 554B, HRS, by section 2 of this bill, subsection (h) on page 3, lines 17-19, requires the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR) to adopt rules for its Wage Standards Division to carry out the purposes of this section.

Pursuant to section 26-20, HRS, DLIR "administer[s] programs designed to increase the economic security, physical and economic well-being, and productivity of workers, . . . including the administration of workers' compensation, employment security, apprenticeship training, wage and hour, and industrial relations laws." Under

section 371-7(2), HRS, the DLIR is required to "[m]ake, modify, and repeal reasonable rules of general application for the protection of life, health, and safety of employees in every employment or place of employment[.]" The DLIR Wage Standards Division's authority is limited to matters administered under chapters 387 (minimum wage), 388 (non-payment of wages), and 390 (certificates of employment for minors), HRS. These duties are unrelated to private trust matters or how wages are spent.

Because the bill already allows a private right of action and possible criminal penalties, we recommend that subsection (h) on page 3, lines 17-19 be deleted.

Thank you for considering our comments.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

WILLIAM G. KUNSTMAN
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
KA 'OIHANA PONO LIMAHANA

April 1, 2025

To: The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair,
The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair,
The Honorable Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Date: Tuesday, April 1, 2025
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 016, State Capitol

From: Jade T. Butay, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

Re: H.B. 874 H.D.3 S.D.1 RELATING TO CHILD PERFORMERS

I. OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

The department supports the intent of this measure to protect the wages of minors in theatrical employment; however, the DLIR opposes the SD1 version of this measure. The SD1 requires the Wage Standards Division (WSD) to adopt rules to implement the new provisions added to the Uniform Custodial Trust Act (HRS Chapter 554B). The DLIR/WSD is not a subject matter expert in the Uniform Custodial Trust Act. Under the current Child Labor Law (HRS Chapter 390), the enforcement mechanism involves the suspension, revocation, or invalidation of a child's work permit (certificates of employment or age). The DLIR respectfully requests removing the department's involvement in enforcing these provisions.

HB874 HD3 SD1 proposes to:

- Require the parent or legal guardian of a minor employed in the theatrical industry to establish a trust account for the minor, and mandate the employer to deposit at least 15% of the minor's gross earnings into the trust account until the minor reaches adulthood or is emancipated,
- Allow the parent or legal guardian of a minor employed in the theatrical industry to access the funds in the trust account, but only for the benefit of the minor,

- Establishes a breach of fiduciary duty for any misappropriation or fraudulent use of funds by a parent, legal guardian, or independent third-party trustee, subject to civil penalties, criminal prosecution, and, in the case of a third-party trustee, removal from the position of trustee.
- Provides a gross income threshold of \$5,000 per project or \$20,000 per calendar year for the applicability of the proposed new sections to the Uniform Custodial Trust Act,
- Requires WSD to adopt rules to enforce the new sections of the Uniform Custodial Trust Act, and
- Defines an “employer” and “theatrical employment” to include social media influencers.

II. CURRENT LAW

HRS Chapter 390 (Child Labor Law) includes provisions for employment certificate requirements for minors under age 18, hazardous employment restrictions, and shift length and time of day standards.

Under §390-4, HRS, the only civil penalty is that the DLIR director may suspend, revoke, or invalidate any certificate of employment or age if it was improperly issued, if the minor is illegally employed, or if the nature or conditions of employment are such that they injuriously affect the minor's health, safety, or well-being, or contribute to the minor's delinquency.

III. COMMENTS ON THE HOUSE BILL

The department supports the intent of this measure to protect the wages of minors in theatrical employment. However, HB874 HD3SD1 requires the department to adopt rules to enforce new provisions in the Uniform Custodial Trust Act, specifically related to private trust matters and the management of minors' wages by their parents or legal guardians.

Under the department's current rules, the only civil remedies available within the DLIR's authority are the revocation of the work permit under HRS Chapter 390 or the issuance of a \$500 penalty under HRS 371-9. Given that most potential complaints will likely be filed after the fact and involve substantial sums of money, the department respectfully suggests that more appropriate remedies for breaches of fiduciary duties, as outlined in the measure, would include criminal prosecution or a private right of action—both of which already exist in proposed subsection (f). Therefore, the department recommends deleting section (h) from the SD1.

If the measure is enacted as written, it will require the DLIR to:

- Comprehend and adopt rules under the Uniform Custodial Trust Act (HRS Chapter 554B), an area in which the Wage Standards Division (WSD) lacks subject matter expertise.

- Determine administratively misappropriations, fraudulent use, and breaches of fiduciary duties, and grounds for the removal of third-party trustees
- Provide enforcement, most likely after the fact, by revoking work permits and issuing \$500 penalties for breaches of fiduciary duties.
- It is unclear how WSD's determinations involving removing third-party trustees would be acted upon.
- Verify that a mandatory trust account has been established with an independent third-party trustee prior to the minor's first instance of theatrical employment if the threshold contained in (g) is met. However, the DLIR is unclear on how it would know the threshold is met and how to verify the proper establishment of the trust account.



HAWAII STATE AFL-CIO

888 Mililani Street, Suite 501 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Telephone: (808) 597-1441 • Fax: (808) 593-2149

The Thirty-Third Legislature
The Senate
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Committee on Judiciary

Testimony by
Hawaii State AFL-CIO

April 1, 2025

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB874 HD3 SD1 - RELATING TO CHILD PERFORMERS

Chairs Keohokalole, Rhoads, Vice Chairs Fukunaga, Gabbard and members of the committee:

The Hawaii State AFL-CIO is a state federation of 76 affiliate labor organizations representing over 69,000 union members across Hawaii in industries including healthcare, construction, hospitality, entertainment, transportation, and government. The Hawaii State AFL-CIO serves its affiliates by advocating for the rights of working families, promoting fair wages, safe working conditions, and policies that strengthen Hawaii's workforce.

We support HB874 HD3 SD1, which requires parents or legal guardians of minors in theatrical employment to establish trust accounts for their children and mandates employers to deposit a portion of the child's earnings into these accounts. This measure will protect the financial well-being of child performers, ensuring they benefit from their hard work upon reaching adulthood.

Passage of this bill will provide an essential safeguard for Hawaii's youngest and most vulnerable performers by requiring protections for their earnings. Additionally, the inclusion of social media influencers within the definition of theatrical employment modernizes Hawaii's child labor laws to reflect changes in the entertainment industry, recognizing the unique challenges and opportunities faced by minors in this rapidly evolving space.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randy Perreira". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Randy Perreira
President



IATSE LOCAL 665

FILM, TELEVISION, STAGE, PROJECTION AND TRADESHOWS
Since 1937



INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE OF THEATRICAL STAGE EMPLOYEES, MOVING PICTURE TECHNICIANS, ARTISTS AND ALLIED CRAFTS
OF THE UNITED STATES, ITS TERRITORIES AND CANADA, AFL-CIO, CLC

Thirty-Third Legislature, State of Hawai'i
Regular Session of 2025
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Senate Committee on Judiciary
Testimony by IATSE 665
April 1st, 2025

HB874 HD3 SD1 - RELATING TO CHILD PERFORMERS

Aloha Chair Keohokalole, Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Senate Committees,

My name is Tuia'ana Scanlan, IATSE International Trustee and president of IATSE Local 665, the union representing technicians and artisans in the entertainment industry in Hawai'i. **Local 665 supports HB874 HD3 SD1**, relating to child performers.

By requiring a parent or legal guardian of a minor in theatrical employment to establish a trust account for the minor, and requiring the employer of a minor in theatrical employment to deposit a portion of the minor's earnings into the trust account until the child becomes an adult, we provide a layer of protection for the child performer's financial wellbeing. There are efforts in several states to create safer, more transparent work environments, greater control over the use (or misuse) of a child's likeness, and guaranteed financial protections for children who create digital content. One of the most important is the requirement, already in place in many states, that a portion of a child's income generated by their performance work be placed in a trust account and made available when they legally become an adult. Thank you for hearing this important measure, passage of this bill will help protect our most vulnerable performers, and will contribute to their financial security.

IATSE 665 supports HB874 HD3 SD1. We urge your committee to defer this bill.
Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

In Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tuia'ana Scanlan'.

Tuia'ana Scanlan
IATSE International Trustee
President, IATSE 665
he/him/his



April 1, 2025

Committee on Judiciary
Chair Rhoads
Vice Chair Gabbard

Committee on Commerce
and Consumer Protection
Chair Keohokalole
Vice Chair Fukunaga

The Senate
The Thirtieth-Third Legislature
Regular Session of 2025

RE: HB 847 HD3 - RELATING TO CHILD PERFORMERS.

DATE: Tuesday, April 1, 2025

TIME: 9:30 am

PLACE: Conference Room 016

State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street, Honolulu HI

Aloha Chairs Keohokalole and Rhoads, Vice Chairs Fukunaga and Gabbard, and the Members of the Committees,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in SUPPORT of HB 847 HD3 -RELATING TO CHILD PERFORMERS.

SAG-AFTRA represents over 160,000 actors, recording artists, and media professionals nationwide and over 1400 in Hawai'i. We are the professional performers working in front of the camera and behind the microphone. The SAG-AFTRA Hawai'i Local has a long-standing history of protecting performers in all areas of the entertainment, advertising, and media industries.

By requiring a parent or legal guardian of a minor in theatrical employment to establish a trust account for the minor when the minor's gross income is at least \$5,000 on a project or \$20,000 in a calendar year, and requiring the employer of a minor in theatrical employment to deposit a portion of the minor's earnings into the trust account until the child becomes an adult, we provide a layer of protection for the child performer's financial wellbeing.

Mericia Palma Elmore, Executive Director
SAG-AFTRA Hawaii Local
mericia.palmaelmore@sagaftra.org
201 Merchant St. Suite 2301
Honolulu, HI 96813
Ph: 808-596-0388 Fax: 808-593-2636

SCREEN ACTORS GUILD - AMERICAN FEDERATION OF
TELEVISION AND RADIO ARTISTS
SAGAFTRA.org
Associated Actors & Artistes of America / AFL-CIO

Over the last decade, the rise of social media has introduced great opportunities for many people, including child performers and their families, in digital entertainment and advertising. According to Forbes, “[t]he influencer industry is worth approximately \$250 billion, a figure that Goldman Sachs predicts will grow to nearly \$500 billion by 2027.”¹ While many people often associate influencers with genres such as beauty, health & fitness, or gaming, family influencers and vloggers have become increasingly popular. Parents often choose to share intimate, relatable content around family life, parenting, their children, and everyday moments. For the children featured in this type of content, their homes have also become their workplace, which has introduced new challenges and substantial risks. These include a lack of oversight over how and how much children are working on the creation of digital content, a lack of transparency and accountability around their compensation for that work, and the reality that it can be very difficult for kids to control where and for how long their images and performances are available in the digital world.

There are efforts in several states to create safer, more transparent work environments, greater control over the use (or misuse) of a child’s likeness, and guaranteed financial protections for children who create digital content. One of the most important is the requirement, already in place in many states, that a portion of a child’s income generated by their performance work be placed in a trust account and made available when they legally become an adult.

Thank you for hearing this important measure, passage of this bill will help protect our most vulnerable performers, and will contribute to their financial security.

Respectfully,

Mericia Palma Elmore

Mericia Palma Elmore, Executive Director SAG-AFTRA Hawaii Local

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<https://www.forbes.com/sites/daniellechemtob/2024/10/28/forbes-daily-the-250-billion-influencer-economy-is-booming/>

Mericia Palma Elmore, Executive Director
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SCREEN ACTORS GUILD - AMERICAN FEDERATION OF
TELEVISION AND RADIO ARTISTS
SAGAFTRA.org
Associated Actors & Artistes of America / AFL-CIO

To: Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair
Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary

From: Chevelle Davis, MPH - Director of Early Childhood & Health Policy
Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!

Subject: Measure H.B. No. 874, H.D. 3, S.D. 1 – Relating to Child Performers

Hearing: Tuesday, April 1, 2025, at 9:30 AM, Conference Room 016

POSITION: STRONG SUPPORT

Aloha e Chairs Keohokalole and Rhoads, Vice Chairs Fukunaga and Gabbard, and Members of the Committees:

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT of H.B. No. 874, H.D. 3, S.D. 1**, which establishes protections for minors in theatrical employment by requiring the creation of trust accounts to safeguard a portion of their earnings until they reach adulthood.

Child performers often earn significant income at a young age, yet history has shown that without proper safeguards, these earnings can be misused or depleted before the child reaches adulthood. By requiring parents or legal guardians to establish a trust account with an independent third-party trustee and mandating that employers deposit a portion of the minor's earnings into this account, this bill provides critical financial security for Hawai'i's young performers.

This measure is an essential step in ensuring that minors in the entertainment industry are not left financially vulnerable. It aligns with similar laws in other states, such as the [Coogan Law](#), which has successfully protected the earnings of young entertainers in California, New York, Illinois, Louisiana, and New Mexico. Additionally, by making misappropriation or fraudulent use of these trust funds a breach of fiduciary duty, the bill strengthens accountability and ensures that the funds serve their intended purpose—securing the child's future.

HCAN Speaks! also supports the requirement for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to adopt rules for enforcement through its Wage Standards Division. Proper oversight and enforcement mechanisms are essential to ensuring compliance and preventing financial exploitation.

By passing this legislation, Hawai'i will take a significant step toward protecting its young performers and promoting their long-term financial well-being. We urge the committee to pass **H.B. No. 874, H.D. 3, S.D. 1**, and ensure that Hawai'i's keiki are given the economic security they deserve.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important measure.

HB-874-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/25/2025 7:43:50 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Golojuch, Jr. (he/him)	Testifying for Pride at Work – Hawai‘i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senators,

Pride at Work – Hawai‘i is an official chapter of [Pride at Work](#) which is a national nonprofit organization that represents LGBTQIA+ union members and their allies. We are an officially recognized constituency group of the AFL-CIO that organizes mutual support between the organized Labor Movement and the LGBTQIA+ Community to further social and economic justice.

Pride at Work – Hawai‘i fully supports HB 874 HD 3 SD 1.

We ask that you support this needed piece of legislation.

Mahalo,

Michael Golojuch, Jr. (he/him)

President

[Pride at Work – Hawai‘i](#)

HB-874-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2025 1:59:23 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Donald Peter Kale Chong	Testifying for Local 665	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Keohokalole, Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Senate Committees,

My name is Donald Peter Kale Chong I'm a member of IATSE Local 665, the union representing technicians and artisans in the entertainment industry in Hawai'i. **I strongly support HB874 HD3 SD1, relating to child performers.**

By requiring a parent or legal guardian of a minor in theatrical employment to establish a trust account for the minor and requiring the employer of a minor in theatrical employment to deposit a portion of the minor's earnings into the trust account until the child becomes an adult, we provide a layer of protection for the child performer's financial wellbeing. There are efforts in several states to create safer, more transparent work environments, greater control over the use (or misuse) of a child's likeness and guaranteed financial protections for children who create digital content. One of the most important is the requirement, already in place in many states, that a portion of a child's income generated by their performance work be placed in a trust account and made available when they legally become an adult. Thank you for hearing this important measure, passage of this bill will help protect our most vulnerable performers and will contribute to their financial security.

I strongly support H874B HD3 SD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

In Solidarity,

Donals Peter Kale Chong

HB-874-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2025 2:01:06 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Katrin Chong	Testifying for Local 665	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Keohokalole, Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Senate Committees,

My name is Katrin Chong I'm a member of IATSE Local 665, the union representing technicians and artisans in the entertainment industry in Hawai'i. **I strongly support HB874 HD3 SD1, relating to child performers.**

By requiring a parent or legal guardian of a minor in theatrical employment to establish a trust account for the minor and requiring the employer of a minor in theatrical employment to deposit a portion of the minor's earnings into the trust account until the child becomes an adult, we provide a layer of protection for the child performer's financial wellbeing. There are efforts in several states to create safer, more transparent work environments, greater control over the use (or misuse) of a child's likeness and guaranteed financial protections for children who create digital content. One of the most important is the requirement, already in place in many states, that a portion of a child's income generated by their performance work be placed in a trust account and made available when they legally become an adult. Thank you for hearing this important measure, passage of this bill will help protect our most vulnerable performers and will contribute to their financial security.

I strongly support H874B HD3 SD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

In Solidarity,

Katrin Chong

March 29, 2025

Aloha,

My name is Gary Nakano. I'm a member of IATSE Local 665, the union representing technicians and artisans in the entertainment industry in Hawai'i. I strongly support HB874 HD3 SD1, relating to child performers.

By requiring a parent or legal guardian of a minor in theatrical employment to establish a trust account for the minor and requiring the employer of a minor in theatrical employment to deposit a portion of the minor's earnings into the trust account until the child becomes an adult, we provide a layer of protection for the child performer's financial wellbeing. There are efforts in several states to create safer, more transparent work environments, greater control over the use (or misuse) of a child's likeness and guaranteed financial protections for children who create digital content. One of the most important is the requirement, already in place in many states, that a portion of a child's income generated by their performance work be placed in a trust account and made available when they legally become an adult. Thank you for hearing this important measure, passage of this bill will help protect our most vulnerable performers and will contribute to their financial security.

I strongly support H874B HD3 SD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

In Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gary Nakano', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Gary Nakano

HB-874-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/26/2025 9:43:32 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Frank Schultz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this initiative. Too many parents of child stars have been exposed for use of the child's earnings for personal gain.

HB-874-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/26/2025 12:45:43 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keahi Kuikahi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Keohokalole, Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Senate Committees,

My name is Keahi S Kuikahi. I'm a member of IATSE Local 665, the union representing technicians and artisans in the entertainment industry in Hawai'i. I strongly support HB874 HD3 SD1, relating to child performers.

By requiring a parent or legal guardian of a minor in theatrical employment to establish a trust account for the minor and requiring the employer of a minor in theatrical employment to deposit a portion of the minor's earnings into the trust account until the child becomes an adult, we provide a layer of protection for the child performer's financial wellbeing. There are efforts in several states to create safer, more transparent work environments, greater control over the use (or misuse) of a child's likeness and guaranteed financial protections for children who create digital content. One of the most important is the requirement, already in place in many states, that a portion of a child's income generated by their performance work be placed in a trust account and made available when they legally become an adult. Thank you for hearing this important measure, passage of this bill will help protect our most vulnerable performers and will contribute to their financial security.

I strongly support HB874 HD3 SD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

In Solidarity,

Keahi S Kuikahi

HB-874-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/26/2025 1:40:40 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Olderr	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill

HB-874-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/26/2025 3:48:16 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Patrick Brian Gilhooly II	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and members of the House committee on Finance,

My name is Patrick Brian Gilhooly II. I'm a member of IATSE Local 665, the union representing technicians and artisans in the entertainment industry in Hawai'i. **I strongly support SB441 SD1 HD1**, relating to the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra.

The Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra is an essential piece of the tapestry of arts in Hawai'i. Founded in 1900, The symphony hosts shows and programs featuring musicians and performing artists from around the world, in addition to promoting local talent within Hawaii. Designating the Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra as the "State of Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra" will enable HSO to regularly obtain state funds to help cover its general operating costs. Our organizations have been working together for decades. We have supported them with the seasoned technical professionals necessary for their performances for many years and we are happy to support them in this initiative as well.

I strongly support SB441 SD1 HD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

In Solidarity,

Patrick Brian Gilhooly II

HB-874-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/26/2025 4:42:08 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gerard Elmore	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Gerard Elmore, Vice President of Film at NMG Network, Executive Director of ‘Ohina Labs/Showcase, and Vice President for Hawai‘i at NATAS (the regional Emmys). and I am writing in strong support of this bill, which establishes essential financial protections for minors engaged in theatrical employment.

By requiring employers to deposit a portion of the minor’s earnings into this account, the bill secures their financial future and aligns Hawai‘i with best practices seen in other entertainment industries.

The involvement of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations in overseeing enforcement further strengthens these safeguards, ensuring compliance and proper fund management.

Establishing these protections is a necessary step in fostering a fair and responsible environment for young performers in Hawai‘i. I respectfully urge you to pass this bill to help secure the financial well-being of minors in the entertainment industry.

Mahalo,

Gerard Elmore

HB-874-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/26/2025 6:54:01 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ashlee Valeros	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Keohokalole, Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Senate Committees,

My name is Ashlee Valeros. I'm a member of IATSE Local 665, the union representing technicians and artisans in the entertainment industry in Hawai'i. **I strongly support HB874 HD3 SD1, relating to child performers.**

By requiring a parent or legal guardian of a minor in theatrical employment to establish a trust account for the minor and requiring the employer of a minor in theatrical employment to deposit a portion of the minor's earnings into the trust account until the child becomes an adult, we provide a layer of protection for the child performer's financial wellbeing. There are efforts in several states to create safer, more transparent work environments, greater control over the use (or misuse) of a child's likeness and guaranteed financial protections for children who create digital content. One of the most important is the requirement, already in place in many states, that a portion of a child's income generated by their performance work be placed in a trust account and made available when they legally become an adult. Thank you for hearing this important measure, passage of this bill will help protect our most vulnerable performers and will contribute to their financial security.

I strongly support H874B HD3 SD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

In Solidarity,

Ashlee Valeros

HB-874-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2025 12:13:39 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Serena Flores	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Keohokalole, Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Senate Committees,

My name is Serena Flores. I'm a member of IATSE Local 665, the union representing technicians and artisans in the entertainment industry in Hawai'i. **I strongly support HB874 HD3 SD1, relating to child performers.**

By requiring a parent or legal guardian of a minor in theatrical employment to establish a trust account for the minor and requiring the employer of a minor in theatrical employment to deposit a portion of the minor's earnings into the trust account until the child becomes an adult, we provide a layer of protection for the child performer's financial wellbeing. There are efforts in several states to create safer, more transparent work environments, greater control over the use (or misuse) of a child's likeness and guaranteed financial protections for children who create digital content. One of the most important is the requirement, already in place in many states, that a portion of a child's income generated by their performance work be placed in a trust account and made available when they legally become an adult. Thank you for hearing this important measure, passage of this bill will help protect our most vulnerable performers and will contribute to their financial security.

I strongly support H874B HD3 SD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

In Solidarity,

Serena Flores

HB-874-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2025 12:43:03 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alexis Flores	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Keohokalole, Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Senate Committees,

My name is Alexis Flores. I'm a member of IATSE Local 665, the union representing technicians and artisans in the entertainment industry in Hawai'i. **I strongly support HB874 HD3 SD1, relating to child performers.**

By requiring a parent or legal guardian of a minor in theatrical employment to establish a trust account for the minor and requiring the employer of a minor in theatrical employment to deposit a portion of the minor's earnings into the trust account until the child becomes an adult, we provide a layer of protection for the child performer's financial wellbeing. There are efforts in several states to create safer, more transparent work environments, greater control over the use (or misuse) of a child's likeness and guaranteed financial protections for children who create digital content. One of the most important is the requirement, already in place in many states, that a portion of a child's income generated by their performance work be placed in a trust account and made available when they legally become an adult. Thank you for hearing this important measure, passage of this bill will help protect our most vulnerable performers and will contribute to their financial security.

I strongly support H874B HD3 SD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

In Solidarity,

Alexis Flores

HB-874-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2025 7:08:38 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kevin Kersting	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Keohokalole, Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Senate Committees,

My name is Kevin Kersting. I'm a member of IATSE Local 665, the union representing technicians and artisans in the entertainment industry in Hawai'i. **I strongly support HB874 HD3 SD1, relating to child performers.**

By requiring a parent or legal guardian of a minor in theatrical employment to establish a trust account for the minor and requiring the employer of a minor in theatrical employment to deposit a portion of the minor's earnings into the trust account until the child becomes an adult, we provide a layer of protection for the child performer's financial wellbeing. There are efforts in several states to create safer, more transparent work environments, greater control over the use (or misuse) of a child's likeness and guaranteed financial protections for children who create digital content. One of the most important is the requirement, already in place in many states, that a portion of a child's income generated by their performance work be placed in a trust account and made available when they legally become an adult. Thank you for hearing this important measure, passage of this bill will help protect our most vulnerable performers and will contribute to their financial security.

I strongly support H874B HD3 SD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

In Solidarity,

Kevin Kersting

HB-874-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2025 11:44:26 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terrie Wehrli	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As an active member of SAG-AFTRA in Hawaii I SUPPORT HB874

HB-874-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2025 12:24:11 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Edward CHIN	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

HB-874-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2025 12:39:37 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jean Simon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is important because it also includes “social media influencer” in the definition of child performers. Over the last decade, the rise of social media has introduced great opportunities for many people, including child performers and their families, in digital entertainment and advertising. According to Forbes, “the influencer industry is worth approximately \$250 billion, a figure that Goldman Sachs predicts will grow to nearly \$500 billion by 2027.” While many people often associate influencers with genres such as beauty, health & fitness, or gaming, family influencers and vloggers have become increasingly popular. Parents often choose to share intimate, relatable content around family life, parenting, their children, and everyday moments. For the children featured in this type of content, their homes have also become their workplace, which has introduced new challenges and substantial risks. These include a lack of oversight over how and how much children are working on the creation of digital content, a lack of transparency and accountability around their compensation for that work, and the reality that it can be very difficult for kids to control where and for how long their images and performances are available in the digital world.

HB-874-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2025 4:27:06 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Noeau Nakai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Keohokalole, Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Senate Committees,

My name is NOEAU NAKAI. I'm a member of IATSE Local 665, the union representing technicians and artisans in the entertainment industry in Hawai'i. **I strongly support HB874 HD3 SD1, relating to child performers.**

By requiring a parent or legal guardian of a minor in theatrical employment to establish a trust account for the minor and requiring the employer of a minor in theatrical employment to deposit a portion of the minor's earnings into the trust account until the child becomes an adult, we provide a layer of protection for the child performer's financial wellbeing. There are efforts in several states to create safer, more transparent work environments, greater control over the use (or misuse) of a child's likeness and guaranteed financial protections for children who create digital content. One of the most important is the requirement, already in place in many states, that a portion of a child's income generated by their performance work be placed in a trust account and made available when they legally become an adult. Thank you for hearing this important measure, passage of this bill will help protect our most vulnerable performers and will contribute to their financial security.

I strongly support H874B HD3 SD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

In Solidarity,

NOEAU NAKAI

HB-874-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2025 8:02:23 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Grace Hall	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Grace Hall, and I am writing in strong support of HB874 HD3. As a SAG member and a film industry professional with over five years of experience, including three seasons as a full-time stand-in on NCIS: Hawai'i, I believe this bill is critical to protecting child performers in Hawai'i.

HB874 HD3 requires a portion of a minor's earnings in theatrical employment to be placed in a trust account, ensuring they have access to their hard-earned income when they reach adulthood. Without these protections, there is a risk that a child's earnings could be mismanaged or spent before they can benefit from them. Many states already have similar laws in place, and this bill would bring Hawai'i in line with industry best practices.

IATSE Local 665 has voiced strong support for this measure, recognizing its importance in securing financial protections for young performers. As more minors find opportunities in entertainment, including digital media, this bill ensures they are not financially exploited.

I urge you to pass HB874 HD3 to provide much-needed financial security for Hawai'i's young performers and ensure they are protected under the law.

Mahalo,

Grace Hall

HB-874-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2025 2:30:30 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thomas h. Penny	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Thomas H. Penny. I'm a member of IATSE Local 665, the union representing technicians and artisans in the entertainment industry in Hawai'i. **I strongly support HB874 HD3 SD1, relating to child performers.**

By requiring a parent or legal guardian of a minor in theatrical employment to establish a trust account for the minor and requiring the employer of a minor in theatrical employment to deposit a portion of the minor's earnings into the trust account until the child becomes an adult, we provide a layer of protection for the child performer's financial wellbeing. There are efforts in several states to create safer, more transparent work environments, greater control over the use (or misuse) of a child's likeness and guaranteed financial protections for children who create digital content. One of the most important is the requirement, already in place in many states, that a portion of a child's income generated by their performance work be placed in a trust account and made available when they legally become an adult. Thank you for hearing this important measure, passage of this bill will help protect our most vulnerable performers and will contribute to their financial security.

I strongly support H874B HD3 SD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

In Solidarity,

Thomas H. Penny

HB-874-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 9:50:26 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
david presley	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This seems like a common sense issue. Please pass it and protect the children.