

HB2169 HD1

Measure Title: RELATING TO YOUTH SUICIDE PREVENTION.

Report Title: Youth Suicide Prevention; Appropriation (\$)

Description: Appropriates moneys for youth suicide early intervention, prevention, and education initiatives in Maui county. (HB2169 HD1)

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: CPH, WAM

Introducer(s): WOODSON, BROWER, DECOITE, ICHIYAMA, ING, JOHANSON, C. LEE, MCKELVEY, MIZUNO, NISHIMOTO, QUINLAN, SAIKI, TODD, YAMASHITA, Belatti, Evans, LoPresti, Nakashima, San Buenaventura

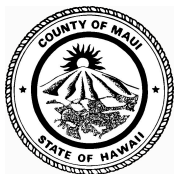


STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

Testimony COMMENTING on H.B. 2169 H.D.1
RELATING TO YOUTH SUICIDE PREVENTION

SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
Hearing Date: 03/15/18 9:30am Room Number: 229

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** H.B. 2169 HD1 requests an unspecified amount of general funds for fiscal
2 year 2018-2019 for youth suicide early intervention, prevention, and education initiatives in
3 Maui county. The Department defers to the Governor's Executive Budget request for
4 appropriations and personnel priorities.
- 5 **Department Testimony: The Department of Health supports the intent of H.B. 2169 H.D.1.**
6 Between 2010 -2016 there were 150 suicides among all residents aged 10 to 24 years, making
7 suicide the leading cause of injury death for this age group. The 150 suicides accounted for 28%
8 of all deaths among residents of this age, and 40% of the injury-related deaths. The annual
9 number varied from 24 to 38 deaths per year. For every youth who dies from suicide in Hawaii,
10 there are an estimated 8 (239 per year) who are hospitalized and another 18 (540 per year) who
11 are treated in emergency departments (ED) for nonfatal self-inflicted injuries each year.
- 12 Rates of suicide among youth are higher for all Neighbor Islands in comparison to Honolulu
13 County. EMSIPSB data shows that youth suicide and attempted suicide are significantly higher
14 in rural communities compared to Oahu
- 15 Given the higher rates of youth suicide in rural communities, the Emergency Medical Services
16 and Injury Prevention System Branch respectively recommends that H.B. 2169 H.D.1 be
17 amended to include the distribution of funds for youth suicide early intervention, prevention and
18 education initiatives to Hawaii County, Kauai County, and Maui County.
- 19 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



MAUI COUNTY COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH

200 SOUTH HIGH STREET • WAILUKU, HAWAII 96793 • PHONE (808) 270-7805 • FAX 270-7165

March 13, 2018

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

Thursday March 15, 2018

9:30 AM

Conference Room 229

Re: HB2169 HD1 Relating to Youth Suicide Protection

Aloha Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tokuda, and members of the Committee,
On behalf of the members of the Maui County Commission on Children and Youth, I offer our strong support for HB2169 HD1, with the purpose of appropriating funds to support youth suicide early intervention, prevention, and education initiatives in Maui County.

Maui County has been identified as having the highest incidents of youth suicide attempts in the state. We need to support the efforts of the networks that address this most serious issue of our community by appropriating these funds. The mission of our commission is that "All Maui County children and youth will reach adulthood having experienced a safe, healthy and nurturing childhood which prepare them to become responsible and contributing members of or community."

Youth of today face unique challenges in their lives. Our children are our most precious resource and we must support them in their struggles as well as celebrate their accomplishments.

Mahalo nui loa,

Hannibal E. Starbuck

Pukalani, Maui



ONLINE SUBMITTAL
Submitted: March 11, 2018

HEARING: March 15, 2018 9:30 a.m. in Room #229

TO: Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health
Sen. Rosalyn Baker, Chari
Sen. Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair

FROM: Eva Andrade, President

RE: **Strong Support for HB2169 HD1 Relating to Youth Suicide Prevention**

Hawaii Family Forum is a non-profit, pro-family education organization committed to preserving and strengthening life, family and religious freedom in Hawaii. This year we celebrate 20 years of serving the faith-based community! We support this bill that provides necessary funding for youth suicide early prevention, intervention and education.

We are committed to defending the sanctity of human life from conception until natural death, and everything that comes between. Many people in our community are concerned about suicide, because it affects the vulnerable people in our community, especially our youth and elderly.

In Hawaii, suicide was the most common cause of fatal injuries among Hawaii residents between 2010 and 2014, accounting for one-quarter of all fatal injuries and experts point out that one person dies by suicide in Hawaii every two days. Recent testimony has said that is one suicide every two days. This is heartbreaking and something we absolutely need to change! Several of our pastors have dealt with this very issue over the past few months.

Experts rightly point out that suicidal behaviors, for people of any age, are usually rooted in many different factors, with mental health issues playing an important role in the overall mix. It is a "perfect storm" of emotional issues and the only way to begin making a difference, is by identifying and treating each person. And the good news, is that it is fixable by awareness and treatment.

If this bill is passed with the appropriate funds necessary, Maui youth will have resources that may very well save their life. Protecting these precious lives are an outcome that is one upon which everyone in the community will agree. Funding for these types of services, we hope, will also be extended to each of the other islands.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support.

HB-2169-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2018 5:50:10 AM

Testimony for CPH on 3/15/2018 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for OCC Legislative Priorities Committee, Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

To the Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair; the Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, ViceChair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health:

Good morning, my name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Legislative Priorities Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on **HB2169 HD1** relating to Youth Suicide Prevention; and an appropriation.

The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of **HB2169 HD1** and support its passage.

HB2169 HD1 is in alignment with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as it appropriates moneys for youth suicide early intervention, prevention, and education initiatives in Maui county.

Specifically, the DPH Platform states, "[w]e also support the establishment of adequate mental health and statewide drug rehabilitation programs set up in conjunction with policing policies aimed at enabling all that seek assistance to obtain whatever support assistance is needed to allow them to remain free of drug dependence." (Platform of the DPH, P. 7, Lines 382-384 (2016)).

Given that **HB2169 HD1** appropriates moneys for youth suicide early intervention, prevention, and education initiatives in Maui county, it is the position of the OCC Legislative Committee to support this measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC Legislative Priorities Committee

Email: legislativepriorities@gmail.com, Text/Tel.: (808) 258-8889



ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE STATE OF HAWAII
DIOCESE OF HONOLULU
Witness to Jesus



Online Submittal

DATE: March 12, 2018

Senate Committee on Commerce Consumer Protection & Health
Sen. Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Se. Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair

FROM: Walter Yoshimitsu, Executive Director – Hawaii Catholic Conference

POSITION: Strong Support for HB 2169 HD1, Youth Suicide Prevention

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify. I am Walter Yoshimitsu, the executive director of the Hawaii Catholic Conference which is the public policy voice of the Roman Catholic Church in the State of Hawaii. Many people at risk for suicide do not seek help so it is essential that people from across the spectrum of services, both secular and faith-based, come together to find a solution to prevent suicides in Hawaii.

As a conference, we believe that each and every human life is sacred. Because of that, we advocate for public policy that will save lives, not end them. On this point we have never wavered. To that end, we are in strong support of **HB 2169 HD1** that will appropriate \$25,000 for youth suicide early intervention, prevention, and education initiatives in Maui county.

Suicide affects people from every age, faith, or ethnicity. In fact, right here in Hawaii, according to the State Department of Health, “suicide was the leading cause of fatal injuries and the 10th leading cause of death among Hawaii residents of all ages.”ⁱ Many organizations are already doing great work to prevent the loss of innocent lives; however, more can and should be done.

Sadly, when an individual takes their own life, it does not end the suffering. In fact, it is quite the contrary. The truth remains that the pain of suicide will continue thereby negatively affecting the family and even the wider community. Fortunately, there is strong evidence that a comprehensive public health approach is effective in reducing suicide rates. As our state puts aside differences and makes a plan to come together and focus on our collective roles in suicide prevention, we will make a difference in our community.

This bill will send a message that young people suffering from depression deserve a chance to live. We hope that this effort will extend to the other islands as well. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

ⁱ State Department of Health testimony on March 18, 2016.

HAWAII CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

(The public policy voice for the Roman Catholic Church in the State of Hawaii)

HB-2169-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2018 1:46:23 PM

Testimony for CPH on 3/15/2018 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Donovan Keliiaa	Testifying on behalf of Abilities unlimited	Support	Yes

Comments:

My name is Brooks Kelly im in support.

My name is Julie Kinoshita I am in support.

My name is Denise Taira I am in support

My name is William Cho I am in support.

My name is Ryan Guinan count me in for support.

my named is Shaydon Okuma I am in support.

My name is Ele Taira and I am in support.

My name is Mark Lausterer and I am in support.

HB-2169-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2018 12:46:12 PM

Testimony for CPH on 3/15/2018 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
CARIN ENOVIJAS	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

RE: HB2169 HD1

March, 13, 2018

Dear Legislators,

I am submitting my testimony today in support of HB 2169.

Please consider that Maui County's rate of youth suicide deaths have outpaced the national rate since 2013. Based on the figures provided by the 2015-2016 Hawaii Healthcare Needs Assessment, approximately 21 Maui families will mourn the loss of a child to suicide each year, unless we commit to funding successful intervention programs. Another 4.3% of our teen population have attempted suicide. Please pass this bill and help provide these teens with the support and mental health resources they need to become happy, productive adults.

Mahalo for your service and consideration.

Sincerely,

Carin L. Enovijas, Pukalani, HI

HB-2169-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2018 1:22:50 PM

Testimony for CPH on 3/15/2018 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Self Advocates	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

My name is Alice, I am in support. Thank you

HB-2169-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2018 10:13:02 AM

Testimony for CPH on 3/15/2018 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joshua Lloreta	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: