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TESTIMONY
OF
BONNIE KAHAKUI, ACTING ADMINISTRATOR
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

TO
THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS,
JUDICIARY,
AND
WAYS AND MEANS

APRIL 5, 2021, 9:45 A.M.

HOUSE BILL 882, HD1, SD1
RELATING TO PROCUREMENT

Chair Moriwaki, Chair Rhoads, Chair, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committees, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB882, HD, SD1. The State Procurement Office (SPO) **strongly supports** this bill.

Thank you.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAII

SUPPORT FOR HB 882, HD1, SD1: RELATING TO PROCUREMENT

TO: Senate Committees on Government Operations, Judiciary, and Ways and Means
FROM: Rob Van Tassell, President and CEO, Catholic Charities Hawai'i
Hearing: **Monday, April 5, 2021; 9:45 am; via videoconference**

Chair Moriwaki, Chair Rhoads, Chair Dela Cruz, and Members, Committees on Government Operations, Judiciary and Ways and Means.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide **testimony in support of HB 882, HD1, SD1** which repeals the community council on purchase of health and human services, and adds a representative from either HANO or PHOCUSED to the Policy Board, among other changes to state procurement. I am Rob Van Tassell, with Catholic Charities Hawai'i.

Catholic Charities Hawai'i (CCH) is a tax exempt, non-profit agency that has been providing social services in Hawai'i for over 70 years. CCH has programs serving elders, children, families, homeless, and immigrants. Our mission is to provide services and advocacy for the most vulnerable in Hawai'i. Catholic Charities Hawai'i has a long history of working in the areas of affordable housing and homelessness.

Catholic Charities Hawai'i strongly supports a stronger commitment to work with the networks of health and human service providers on procurement issues. We strongly support SD1 which was **amended to designate that a representative from either the Hawaii Alliance of Nonprofit organizations (HANO) or PHOCUSED (Protecting Hawaii's Ohana, Children, Under-Served, Elderly & Disabled) sit on the Policy Board to fulfill the requirement that "one member shall have significant experience in the field of health and human services."** This would ensure that service providers have an avenue to share insights and make recommendations regarding procurement.

The community needs the Policy Board to collaborate with these networks of large and small service providers. Many issues may arise over procurement policies, timeframes, etc. Procurement Administrators need input and especially insights on impacts from the service providers to ensure that there are fewer unintended consequences. We also note that prior testimony from the State Procurement Office reported the difficulty to recruit experienced people in health and human services for this Board position. By networking with HANO and PHOCUSED experienced people may be recruited in a timely manner. This is important to allow the work of the Policy Board to include the voice of providers as well as for the Board to have adequate quorum to take timely actions.

4Non-profit service providers are a huge segment of the Hawai'i economy. We thank you for your consideration of how to improve the procurement process for these much needed services.

Please contact our Legislative Liaison, Betty Lou Larson at (808) 373-0356 or bettylou.larson@catholiccharitieshawaii.org if you have any questions.





PROTECTING HAWAII'S OHANA, CHILDREN, UNDER SERVED, ELDERLY AND DISABLED

April 5, 2021

TO: Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Christy MacPherson, Director, PHOCUSED

SUBJECT: Testimony: Relating to Procurement

Hearing: April 5, 2021 at 9:45 am
Via videoconference

Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Joint Senate Committee on Government Operations,
Judiciary and Ways and Means,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support** of HB882, HD1 SD1.

PHOCUSED is a nonpartisan project of Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice and comprises health and human service organizations and the people they serve across the State of Hawai'i. We have been collaborating on advocacy pertaining to critical procurement and service delivery issues that directly impact our providers.

We strongly support the amendment in SD1 requiring that a member of either HANO or PHOCUSED, or similar organization, be a member of the policy board. This will ensure that Hawai'i's health and human service providers have an avenue for providing regular input and insight into the procurement process.

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB882, HD1 SD1.

PHOCUSED IS A PROJECT OF HAWAII APPLESEED

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