

February 27, 2023

Committee: House Finance

Time: 11:30 AM

Location: State Capitol

Re: HB 68, HD1 Relating to Criminal Justice

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and members of the Committee:

We are writing in **strong** support of HB 68, HD1 Relating to Criminal Justice

This bill will create a centralized statewide criminal pretrial database and collection system.

Dr. Erin Harbinson, the executive director of the CJRI (Criminal Justice Research Institute), met with our Opportunity Youth Action Hawai’i hui policy interns prior to the legislative session and explained the importance of a centralized pretrial database. The creation of a centralized pretrial database would enable agencies to act on data in an increasingly effective and coordinated manner, facilitating better communication as a system and enhancing collective efforts to reduce recidivism. We believe that it will allow research to be conducted more quickly and effectively.

Opportunity Youth Action Hawaiʻi is a collaboration of organizations and individuals committed to reducing the harmful effects of a punitive incarceration system for youth; promoting equity in the justice system; and improving and increasing resources to address adolescent and young adult mental health needs. We seek to improve the continuity of programs and services for youth and young adults transitioning from minor to adult status; eliminate youth houselessness and housing market discrimination against young adults; and promote and fund more holistic and culturally-informed approaches among public/private agencies serving youth.

**Please Support HB 68, HD1.**

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