Opportunity Youth Action Hawai'i Policy Initiative

Final OYAH Policy Update for 2023 Legislature

This is the final OYAH policy update for the 2023 Hawai'i State Legislative Session! Governor Green vetoed 13 bills and one vetow was overridden. 262 bills became law. Here are a few highlights of our priority bills:

OYAH Priority Bills Passed:

- HB 349 Expands the original jurisdiction of family court to include proceedings for declarations of emancipation of minors.
- HB 68 Appropriates funds to establish a centralized statewide criminal pretrial justice data reporting and collection system.
- HB 823 Expands the scope of reports on correctional facility and community correctional center deaths that are submitted to the governor and legislature. Requires certain reports to be published on the department of corrections and rehabilitation website.
- HB 948 Establishes a two-year child and adolescent crisis mobile outreach team pilot program on Oahu and one neighbor island site to expand existing crisis response services.
- SB 295 Establishes within the Office of Wellness and Resilience the Mālama 'Ohana Working Group to seek, design, and recommend transformative changes to the State's existing child welfare system. Allows the Office to contract with an administrative facilitator to provide necessary support for the working group.
- SB 712 Establishes a trauma-informed certification program at the Windward Community College campus of the University of Hawai'i for adult corrections officers. Requires the curriculum to include a level I trauma-informed care course designed for adult corrections officers.
- SB 410 Requires the court to automatically seal or remove from the judiciary's publicly accessible databases any information relevant to the arrest or case of a person for whom an expungement order has been entered and transmitted to the court.

Bills that will be available to legislators in 2024:

- HB 579 Establishes the statewide human trafficking prevention program within the department of the attorney general to provide services and assistance to victims of human trafficking and victims of the commercial sexual exploitation of children.
- HB 581 Requires certain individuals attempting to serve as child custody evaluators to complete a training course on the dynamics of domestic violence every three years.



- HB 781 Requires that when an officer has custody of a child under age of eighteen, the child shall have contact with legal counsel and, to the extent practicable, a parent or legal custodian before the child waives rights against selfincrimination and before custodial interrogation.
- HB 1045 Requires a minor student's parent or legal guardian, rather than the student, to produce the required student records when transferring schools. Clarifies that the transfer process is the same whether a transfer is within the same complex area or to another complex area. Exempts students eligible for assistance provided under the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act from producing required student records when transferring schools.
- SB 1267 Expands the jurisdiction for where petitions for domestic abuse protective orders and temporary restraining orders may be filed.

-Leah Delos Santos