

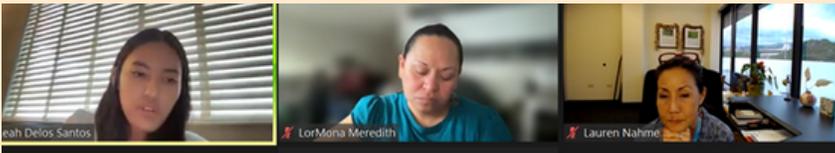
OCTOBER 28, 2022

Opportunity Youth Action Hawai'i Policy Initiative

Setting a Policy Strategy for 2023



Members of the Opportunity Youth Action Hawai'i hui and interested stakeholders have begun meeting to propose and flesh out the details of policy initiatives for the 2023 legislative session. The first meeting was held on October 25th -- the discussion focused on measures ranging from youth emancipation to mental health and more. The stakeholders present (some pictured here) spoke in support of legislation that would remove the "sunset" date on the Youth Right to Housing law.



OYAH Policy Intern Leah Delos Santos (pictured at left above) will convene a second policy discussion at 4 pm on Monday, November 7 at 4:00 p.m. -- all are welcome! Email Melissa Pavlicek at mpavlicek@hawaiiipublicpolicy.com for the virtual meeting link if needed. Among the policy initiatives currently being considered for inclusion as priorities for OYAH are: Office of Youth Services commercial enterprises bill; Native Hawaiian rehabilitation programs in incarceration; homelessness -- Kahale Program, 'Ohana Zones Pilot Program; sex trafficking prevention; emancipation at age 16; youth crisis centers; and mental health resources/programs.

The Hawai'i state legislature convenes on January 18, 2023, but the OYAH Policy Initiative interns are starting now to talk to legislators and see introduction of legislation, rather than to wait until bills are introduced.

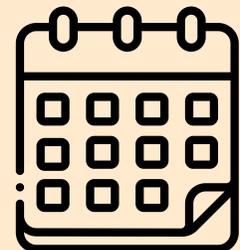
Editors: Leah Delos Santos & Melissa Pavlicek | 1099 Alakea St., Suite 2530 | Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813 | (808) 447-1840 | www.oyahpolicy.com

HAWAII JUVENILE JUSTICE STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL

The OYAH Policy interns are monitoring meetings of the Juvenile Justice advisory council which has goals including:

- Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders
- Sight and Sound Separation of juvenile offenders from adult criminal offenders
- Removal of juvenile offenders from Adult Jails and/or Lockups
- Reduce or eliminate the disproportionate contact of minority youth in all decision points of the juvenile justice system (arrest through confinement)

The council's next meeting will be held on November 1, and its agenda will include discussing data collection. Please watch for more information here.



Hawai'i will elect a new governor for the first time in eight years on Nov. 8. What this means for the OYAH Policy Initiatives is that a renewed effort to meet and educate new state leaders will begin soon!