

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I AT MĀNOA
2465 Campus Road, Campus Center 211A
Honolulu, HI 96822

Senate Resolution 15-17

IN SUPPORT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A YOUTH ADVISORY COMMISSION

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNDERGRADUATE SENATE:

- WHEREAS*, the Associated Students of the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa Senate is the elected body representing approximately 11,000 full-time classified undergraduate students; and,
- WHEREAS*, a Youth Commission Board is defined as a “formal body made up of youth who advise high-level decision makers and elected officials”¹; and,
- WHEREAS*, “Youth” is defined as “from the age range of fourteen (14) to twenty four (24) years of age”; and,
- WHEREAS*, a significant amount of the population of the full-time undergrad student body falls within the range of the defined youth; and,
- WHEREAS*, civic engagement is defined as “the expanse of activities, in which participation in social life with other citizens takes place, involving the pursuit of common goals related to the betterment of the community”²; and
- WHEREAS*, on November 4, 2014, Hawai‘i’s voter turnout rate reached a historic low of 52.3% out of 706,890 people registered³; and
- WHEREAS*, issues in Hawai‘i that heavily impact the youth are affordable housing, jobs⁴, and the increasing cost of education⁵; and
- WHEREAS*, according to Hawai‘i Child Labor Law⁶, the minimum age to work is fourteen years old and protections last until the age of seventeen; and,

¹ Martin, S., Pittman, K., Ferber, T., McMahon, A. (2007, July). Building Effective Youth Councils: A Practical Guide to Engaging Youth in Policy Making. Washington, D.C.: The Forum for Youth Investment.

² Syme, Maggie Lee. Understanding the Impact of Positive Functioning On Civic Engagement Behavior in the DotNet Generation. Diss. U of Kansas, 2008. Ann Arbor: ProQuest LLC, 2009. Print.

³ <http://elections2.hawaii.gov/files/results/2014/general/histatewide.pdf>

⁴ <http://www.civilbeat.com/2015/07/living-hawaii-the-nations-worst-place-to-earn-a-living/>

⁵ <http://www.hawaii.edu/finaid/tuition.html>

⁶ <http://labor.hawaii.gov/wsd/child-labor/>

WHEREAS, Proposal 102, which was submitted to the Honolulu Charter Commission for recommendation on October 15, 2015, outlined the need and purpose of a Youth Commission Board, but was not passed⁷; and,

WHEREAS, the 103rd Senate passed SR 22-16, which supported the passage of Proposal 102; and,

WHEREAS, Proposal 102 was not approved by the Honolulu Charter Commission; and,

WHEREAS, on January 25, 2017, members of the Senate and House of Representatives have introduced two bills, SB 1220 and HB 1466, that would establish a Youth Advisory Commission within the Office of Youth Services to advise the governor and legislature on issues related to youth; and,

WHEREAS, the primary purpose of a Youth Commission Board is to provide, comments and recommendations on pieces of legislation, create resolutions that articulate the Youth Commission Board position, and set a policy priorities relating to young people⁸; and,

WHEREAS, the secondary purposes of a Youth Advisory Commission includes leadership development, encourage the development of civic engagement, and encourage voter turnout; and,

WHEREAS, the tertiary purpose of a Youth Advisory Commission would allow for a perpetual renewing of responsibility of the community, through the constant involvement of the youth and the ability to promote a diverse community; and,

WHEREAS, without the formal establishment of a Youth Advisory Commission, the youth is left without formal representation in the affairs of their respective area; and,

WHEREAS, a Youth Advisory Commission has not been established in the State of Hawai‘i; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, the 104th ASUH Senate supports Senate Bill 1220 and House Bill 1466 that was introduced by various members of the Hawai‘i State Senate and House of Representatives; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 104th ASUH Senate support the creation of a Youth Advisory Commission through Senate Bill 1220 and House Bill 1466; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 104th ASUH Senate strongly urges the state legislature to ensure the passage of one of these bills to create the Youth Advisory Commission; and,

⁷ <http://honoluluchartercommission.org/images/proposals/Proposal102-YOUTH-COMMISSION-Ryan-Akamine.pdf>

⁸ <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1je2T-4QKMLt7ANPznXJa5muhm1tL7cim-NEWk4991ys/edit>

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution shall be sent to:

Governor David Ige, Senate President Ronald Kouchi, House of Representatives Speaker Joseph Souki, Senator Josh Green, Senator Jill Tokuda, Senator Stanley Chang, Senator Will Espero, Senator Karl Rhoads, Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Senator Kahele, Senator Shimabukuro, Senator Wakai, Representative Chris Todd, Senator Jarett Keohokalole, Representative Matthew LoPresti, Representative Angus McKelvey, Representative Dee Morikawa, University of Hawai‘i (UH) Board of Regents Chair Jan Naoe Sullivan and Members, UH System President & Interim Chancellor David Lassner, Vice President for Academic Policy & Planning Risa Dickson, Interim Associate Vice President for Student Affairs Hae Okimoto, UH-Mānoa Interim Vice Chancellor for Students Lori Ideta, Graduate Student Organization President Amy McKee, UHM Faculty Senate Chair Marguerite Butler, The Associated Students of Kapi‘olani Community College, The Associated Students of Windward Community College, The Associated Students of University of Hawai‘i - Leeward Community College, The Associated Students of Honolulu Community College, The Associated Students of the University of Hawai‘i – West Oahu, UH Hilo Student Association, The Associated Students of Maui College, The Associated Student of Hawai‘i Community College, The Associated Students of Kaua‘i Community College, Associated Students of Kapiolani Community College President Tasi Yanger and Advisor Shannon Sakamoto, ASUH – Leeward Community College President Raezheen Pascua and Advisor Lexer Chou, ASUH – Windward Community College President Kelli Acopan and Advisor Ka‘ahu Alo, ASUH – West Oahu President Isaiah Baclaan and Advisor Rouel Velasco and Ka Leo O Hawai‘i.

ROLL CALL VOTES

Aye(s): Vice President Dela Cruz, Secretary Nishihara, Senators-at-Large Chen, Enriquez, Urasaki, Willis, Senators Crollard, Fong, Ho, Honda, Takagi, Yamada [12]

Nay(s): Senators Arenivas, Delos Reyes, Finau, Ikeda, Ishii, Lao, Lee, Leval, Lo, Negrillo, Wang [11]

ROLL CALL VOTE TO RECALL SR 15-17

Aye(s): Vice President Dela Cruz, Secretary Nishihara, Senators-at-Large Chen, Enriquez, Urasaki, Willis, Senators Crollard, Delos Reyes, Finau, Fong, Ho, Honda, Ikeda, Ishii, Lao, Lee, Leval, Lo, Negrillo, Takagi, Wang, Yamada, Zabanal [23]

Nay(s): Senator Arenivas [1]

ROLL CALL VOTE TO READOPT SR 15-17 WITH AMENDMENTS

Aye(s): Vice President Dela Cruz, Secretary Nishihara, Senators-at-Large Chen, Enriquez, Urasaki, Willis, Senators Crollard, Delos Reyes, Finau, Fong, Honda, Ikeda, Ishii, Lao, Lee, Leval, Lo, Negrillo, Takagi, Wang, Yamada, Zabanal [22]

Nay(s): Senators Arenivas, Klinestiver [2]

Introducing members: Chase Urasaki, Senator-at-Large, Vice-Chair, Committee on Undergraduate Academic Affairs; Shanda Shamela Delos Reyes, Senator of the Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Vice Chair, Committee on External Affairs