

JULY 3, 2024

Opportunity Youth Action Hawai'i Policy Initiative

2024 State Legislature: OYAH Priority Bills Advance



There were 2,858 bills carried over from 2023. An additional 2,935 bills were introduced in 2024. This year, 262 bills were passed by legislators (5%). OYAH testified in support of 30 priority bills. Seven of them passed (23%). Down below are the bills that have passed, as well as two resolutions pertaining to OYAH.

HB470, Act 145

This bill clarifies the definition of "provider" as it relates to the entities eligible to provide no cost emergency shelter and related services to a consenting minor to include certain organizations who are not considered child placing organizations or child caring institutions.

HB1595, Act 62

This bill creates a pilot project, to be administered by the Department of the Attorney General, for a state-initiated expungement process of arrest records concerning certain marijuana offenses under section 712-1249, HRS.

HB2513, Act 168

This bill expands expungement eligibility to persons whose convictions for consuming a measurable amount of alcohol while under the age of twenty-one or first-time property offenses predated current expungement provisions. (SD1)

HB2042, Act 102

this bill appropriates funds for the Department of Health to contract for the provision of youth mental health and wellness services to address the mental health and wellness needs of youth in the State.

SB2706, Will become law on July 10 (unless the Governor signs it sooner)

This bill establishes the Clean Slate Expungement Task Force to develop a state-initiated record clearing program.

SB3139, Act 86

It establishes a Crisis Intervention and Diversion Services Program within the Department of Health to expand existing services to divert certain persons experiencing mental health disorders and co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders to appropriate health care systems and services. This bill clarifies when a law enforcement officer may gain control of the person and the procedures the officer shall take to call for assistance from a mental health emergency worker.

SB3094, Act 88

This bill establishes a Peer Support Specialist Working Group within the Office of Wellness and Resilience to develop and make recommendations for a framework for peer support specialists in the State. It requires the working group to submit a report to the Legislature before the Regular Session of 2025.

HR180 & SR151

These single body resolutions request the Department of Human Services to report on the cultural and therapeutic services provided by community-based organizations at the Kawaihoa Youth and Family wellness center.

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