



***The Judiciary, State of Hawaii***

**Testimony to the House Committee on Judiciary**

The Hon. Karl Rhoads, Chair  
The Hon. Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 14, 2013  
2:00 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY**

by  
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Deputy Chief Judge, Senior Judge  
Family Court of the First Circuit

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**Bill No. and Title:** House Bill No. 237, HD1, Relating to Alternative Schools for Juveniles Involved in the Justice System

**Purpose:** Appropriates funds to the Dept of Education for two additional alternative schools.

**Judiciary's Position:**

The Judiciary supports this bill. Due to their background that may include traumatic life experiences, dysfunctional families, early and ongoing neglect and abuse, and lack of school readiness, some youth are unable to succeed in the traditional school setting, despite their best efforts. Often, though, that same background prevents some youth from performing at their optimal level. This bill recognizes this unfortunate truth and will bring extra monies to assist these youth, to maximize their chances to develop into healthy and contributing members of this community.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill.