

BILL028(23)
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 299

COUNCIL

COUNCIL Meeting

Meeting Date: Jun 7, 2023 @ 10:00 AM

Support: 13

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 0

Name: Adrian Tam	Email: reptam@capitol.hawaii.gov	Zip: 96815
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Jun 5, 2023 @ 01:04 PM
Name: Daniela Stolfi-Tow	Email: mygoldenpalace@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: 808 viral	Position: Support	Submitted: Jun 6, 2023 @ 12:02 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>My name is Daniela Stolfi-Tow, and I am testifying in support of Bill 28.</p> <p>I worked on and off at the city, district one, for 8 yrs, as well as being the founder of Hawaii's largest social media network, 808 viral. We have always been deeply connected to the pulse of the community, and in the weeds engaged online for many years. We've seen a lot. And right now, I'm deeply concerned we are not further ahead in dealing with the fentanyl problem.</p> <p>I personally survived a debilitating fentanyl addiction. My addiction was from prescribed medication that I had been led to believe was safe. It consumed me rapidly and nearly claimed my life. After sharing my story on our platform, I was astounded and disheartened by the multitude of individuals who reached out, recounting their own experiences... business owners, teachers, law enforcement officers, even teenagers....</p> <p>I urge you today to treat any matter related to fentanyl with seriousness. The full extent of fentanyl's impact is yet to be realized, and it is crucial that you look at the impact to mainland communities for what is to come.</p> <p>I hope we can rally behind all initiatives that proactively combat the fentanyl epidemic. Hawai'i is simply unprepared, and it is important that we act swiftly and decisively.</p>		
Name: Heather Lusk	Email: hlusk@hhrc.org	Zip: 96813
Representing: Hawaii Health and Harm Reduction Center	Position: Support	Submitted: Jun 6, 2023 @ 04:00 PM
Name: Russell Abordo	Email: keliiboy@gmail.com	Zip: 96814
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Jun 6, 2023 @ 04:07 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I strongly supports Bill 28 which would support Naloxone in the City and County of Honolulu's bars and nightclubs. In 2022 more people died of drug overdose than ever recorded in Hawaii, with a huge increase in fentanyl related overdoses. Naloxone is very safe (the FDA just made it over the counter) and can prevent death from opioid overdose. We have had deaths in our establishments that could be prevented with this bill.</p>		
Name: Maddalynn Sesepsara	Email: maddie@hhrc.org	Zip: 96797
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Jun 6, 2023 @ 04:09 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha! My name is Maddalynn Sesepsara, I strongly supports Bill 28 which would support Naloxone in the City and County of Honolulu's bars and nightclubs. In 2022 more people died of drug overdose than ever recorded in Hawaii, with a huge increase in fentanyl related overdoses. Naloxone is very safe (the FDA just make it over the counter) and can prevent death from opioid overdose. We have had deaths in our establishments that could be prevented with this bill. Mahalo.</p>		
Name: Nikos Leverenz	Email: naleverenz@gmail.com	Zip: 96818
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:

Self	Support	Jun 6, 2023 @ 04:11 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha Council Members:</p> <p>I am writing in strong support of Bill 28, which would require commercial establishments that sell alcoholic beverages to carry a supply of naloxone to help reverse potentially fatal overdoses.</p> <p>The deaths of Hawaii residents at the Outrigger Hotel in Waikiki a few days ago highlight the need for greater availability of naloxone to counter accidental opioid overdoses. The use of any opioid, including prescription opioids, and alcohol carries the risk of respiratory depression that may result in death.</p> <p>Its salutary that some downtown businesses that serve liquor have already obtained naloxone—and trained their staff to use such should it be necessary. Perhaps all Waikiki hotels could be encouraged to carry naloxone in their first aid kits so that doses can be administered before the arrival of EMTs.</p> <p>The state Department of Health has taken a proactive posture with respect to making nasal naloxone (Narcan) available at no cost to any resident upon request. Hopefully the Council will engage in constructive conversations with state government officials to dedicate some level of funding from the opioid settlement to continue the broad provision of naloxone on Oahu, including those businesses that would be impacted by this bill.</p> <p>The Council should also look for ways to increase the availability of drug checking supplies and services to reduce the likelihood of injury and death among persons who use drugs.</p> <p>Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.</p> <p>Nikos Leverenz Aliamanu</p>		
Name: Erin Furuichi	Email: efuruichi@gmail.com	Zip: 96814
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Jun 6, 2023 @ 04:21 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I strongly support Bill 28 to allow Naloxone in bars and nightclubs throughout the City and County of Honolulu. More people died of drug overdoses in 2022 than ever recorded in Hawaii, with a huge increase in fentanyl-related overdoses. Naloxone is proven to be safe, as the FDA just made it available for over-the-counter, and can absolutely prevent death from opioid overdose. This bill could very well prevent unnecessary deaths and save lives in our state. Thank you for this opportunity and your consideration of this bill.</p>		
Name: Rachel Lehn	Email: rlehn@hawaii.edu	Zip: 96815
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Jun 6, 2023 @ 04:37 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I strongly supports Bill 28 which would support Naloxone in the City and County of Honolulu's bars and nightclubs. There has been a rise in people dying of drug overdose in Hawai'i, with a huge increase in fentanyl related overdoses. Naloxone can quickly and safely reverse an opioid overdose. Death from an opioid overdose is preventable. Let's all play our part.</p>		
Name: Charles Monoiki Ah Nee-Bahn	Email: monoiki@yahoo.com	Zip: 96817
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Jun 6, 2023 @ 04:54 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha to all of Honolulu City's councilmembers. I strongly support Bill 28 which would support Naloxone in the City and County of Honolulu's bars and nightclubs. In 2022 more people died of drug overdose than ever recorded in Hawaii, with a huge increase in</p>		

fentanyl related overdoses. This past weekend, two people died of an accidental Fentanyl overdose in Waikiki. While this incident did not happen in a bar, nightclub, cabaret, or restaurant; having Naloxone readily available and accessible helps to reduce the stigma around opioid overdose and improve the acceptability of this life saving medication.

Naloxone is very safe (the FDA just made it available over the counter) and can prevent death from opioid overdose. This bill will save lives.

Respectfully yours,

Charles Monoiki Ah Nee-Bahn

Name: Mialisa Otis	Email: mialisa808@gmail.com	Zip: 96795
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Jun 7, 2023 @ 07:12 AM

Testimony:

I support the availability of the life-saving Naloxone or Narcan in liquor-licensed establishments. I believe each establishment or business should manage 4 doses. 4 doses because there most likely be a group on opioids. The 4-dose mandate will give time to save more lives until emergency responders arrive. We can't stop the opioid crisis but we can save some lives. I keep it in my purse and think as bad as the crisis is, we should all consider carrying it with us in public places.

Name: Claudia Ramos	Email: claudiadenyseramos@gmail.com	Zip: 96826
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Jun 7, 2023 @ 08:12 AM

Testimony:

I am in strong support of Bill 28 which would support Naloxone in the City and County of Honolulu's bars and nightclubs. In 2022, more people died of drug overdose than ever recorded in Hawaii, with a huge increase in fentanyl related overdoses. Naloxone is very safe (the FDA just made it over the counter) and can prevent death from opioid overdose. Passage of this bill could prevent many future deaths.

Mahalo for your support,
Claudia Ramos

Name: Natalia Werkoff	Email: nwerkoff@gmail.com	Zip: 96815
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Jun 7, 2023 @ 08:25 AM

Testimony:

I support this bill that would help prevent overdose deaths in Honolulu's bars and nightclubs. Overdose deaths will continue to increase if we don't come together as a community to make change. Naloxone saves lives. Thank you.

Name: Aaron Ruddick	Email: aruddick@hhrc.org	Zip: 96815
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Jun 7, 2023 @ 10:31 AM

Testimony:

I strongly support Bill 28 which would support Naloxone in the City and County of Honolulu's bars and nightclubs. In 2022 more people died of drug overdose than ever recorded in Hawaii, with a huge increase in fentanyl related overdoses. Naloxone is very safe (the FDA just make it over the counter) and can prevent death from opioid overdose. We have had deaths in our establishments that could be prevented with this bill.



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

May 22, 2023

Aloha Chair Matt Weyer and members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of Bill 28 (2023), "Relating to Naloxone," which would require certain establishments with liquor licenses carry doses of Naloxone.

Hawaii's opioid crisis worsening. The Hawai'i State Department of Health counted there were at least 220 deadly drug overdoses last year in Hawai'i. State epidemiologists believe this number will rise to 300 in 2023.

If we are going to reverse this trend, we need to make Naloxone easily accessible - particularly in high-risk locations. As the Hawai'i State House Representative for District 24-Waikiki and Mo'i'iili, I represent a number of high-risk locations - particularly nightclubs and bars.

Bill 28 helps ensure that the business owners in my district are prepared for accidental overdoses. It will also reduce the number of fatal overdoses overall. This is something we need to do. I thank the Honolulu City Council for taking on this important issue.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adrian Tam".

Adrian Tam

June 6th, 2023

Honolulu City Council

Chair Tommy Waters

Testimony in support of Bill 28 – Naloxone in bars and nightclubs

Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the City Council:

The Hawaii Health and Harm Reduction (HHHRC) Center strongly supports Bill 28 which would support Naloxone in the City and County of Honolulu's bars and nightclubs. In 2022 more people died of drug overdose than ever recorded in Hawaii, with a huge increase in fentanyl related overdoses. Naloxone is very safe (the FDA just made it over the counter) and can prevent death from opioid overdose. We have had deaths in our establishments that could be prevented with this bill.

HHHRC's mission is to *reduce harm, promote health, create wellness and fight stigma in Hawaii and the Pacific*. We focus our efforts on those disproportionately affected by social determinants of health, including but not limited to: people living with and/or affected by HIV, hepatitis, substance use, and the transgender, LGBTQ and the Native Hawaiian communities.

HHHRC is willing to help provide training and dissemination of naloxone as resources allow – we have been doing so for the past 7 years and have been the primary agency in Hawaii dedicated to getting naloxone in spaces where it can save lives. We have already worked with several nightclubs due to recent overdoses in these venues and look forward to supporting implementation of this important measure.

Thank you for the chance to testify.

Sincerely



Heather Lusk, LCSW
Executive Director, Hawai'i Health and Harm Reduction Center