

**BILL028(23)**  
**Testimony**

**MISC. COMM. 338**

HOUSING, SUSTAINABILITY AND HEALTH (HSH)

**HOUSING, SUSTAINABILITY AND HEALTH (HSH)  
Meeting**

Meeting Date: Jun 21, 2023 @ 02:30 PM

Support: 8

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 0

Name: Erin Furuichi	Email: efuruichi@gmail.com	Zip: 96814
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Jun 19, 2023 @ 08:26 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I strongly support Bill 28 to allow and require Naloxone be carried 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: Rebecca Soon	Email: rebecca.ji.soon@gmail.com	Zip: 96817
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Jun 19, 2023 @ 09:15 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha nui e Chair Weyer, Vice Chair Kiana, and Members of the Committee on Housing, Sustainability, and Health:</p> <p>I write today in support of Councilmember Dos Santos-Tam's proposed Bill 28 to require establishments to carry Naloxone.</p> <p>We are seeing devastating effects of opioid overdoses across our County in numbers that will dwarf anything we have seen in recent years. The recent tragic events in Waikiki are a terrible reminder. Bars and similar establishments are uniquely situated to help mitigate potential overdoses.</p> <p>Given the crisis our community is facing, Bill 28 is a common sense measure on par with requirements of businesses to comply with health safety measures for grease traps, food handling, fire mitigation, etc. The public funding available to support our local businesses makes this a particularly reasonable requirement.</p> <p>Mahalo for the leadership this Committee and the Council is demonstrating in supporting efforts to ensure an ecosystem of support to our communities.</p> <p>Aloha, Rebecca Soon</p>		
Name: Alan Burdick	Email: burdick808@gmail.com	Zip: 96701
Representing: Progressive Democrats of Hawaii	Position: Support	Submitted: Jun 20, 2023 @ 03:08 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Progressive Democrats of Hawaii, an affiliate of Progressive Democrats of America, strongly support this bill to mandate that certain commercial establishments make Naloxone available to help avoid deaths from overdoses. We trust that this bill will be followed by broader measures to help prevent these avoidable deaths.</p>		
Name: Larry Smith	Email: larrysmith808@gmail.com	Zip: 96817
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Jun 20, 2023 @ 08:00 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Please pass this important bill!!</p>		
Name: Robbie Baldwin	Email: robertbrucebaldwin@gmail.com	Zip: 96813
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Jun 20, 2023 @ 11:14 AM

<p>Testimony: Talk about importance of narcan and the emerging threat of fentanyl</p>		
<p>Name: Laurie Mizuno</p>	<p>Email: lauriei94@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Zip: 96816</p>
<p>Representing: Self</p>	<p>Position: Support</p>	<p>Submitted: Jun 20, 2023 @ 04:55 PM</p>
<p>Testimony: I support this measure</p>		
<p>Name: Peggy Mierzwa</p>	<p>Email: peggy@hiphi.org</p>	<p>Zip: 96813</p>
<p>Representing: Hawaii Public Health Insititute</p>	<p>Position: Support</p>	<p>Submitted: Jun 20, 2023 @ 08:42 PM</p>
<p>Name: Clifford Chang</p>	<p>Email: cliffordchangconsulting@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Zip: 96821</p>
<p>Representing: Self</p>	<p>Position: Support</p>	<p>Submitted: Jun 21, 2023 @ 09:45 AM</p>
<p>Testimony: I write today in support of Councilmember Dos Santos-Tam's proposed Bill 28 to require establishments to carry Naloxone.</p> <p>As a public health worker, I have been involved since the 1980s in addressing the effects of drug use, primarily as it affects the transmission of HIV and other blood borne diseases. Currently we are seeing devastating effects of opioid overdoses across our County in numbers that will dwarf anything we have seen in recent years. Bars and similar establishments are uniquely situated to help mitigate potential overdoses through the ready access to nalaxone.</p> <p>Bill 28 is a common sense measure on par with requirements of businesses to comply with health safety measures for grease traps, food handling, fire mitigation, etc. The public funding available to support our local businesses makes this a particularly reasonable requirement.</p> <p>Mahalo for the leadership this Committee and the Council is demonstrating in supporting efforts to ensure an ecosystem of support to our communities.</p> <p>Aloha, Clifford Chang, MPH</p>		



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## HIPHI Initiatives

Coalition for a  
Tobacco-Free Hawai'i

Community Health  
Worker Initiative

COVID-19 Response

Hawai'i Drug & Alcohol Free  
Coalitions

Hawai'i Farm to School Hui

Hawai'i Oral Health Coalition

Hawai'i Public Health Training Hui

Healthy Eating + Active Living

Kūpuna Collective

Date: June 20, 2023

To: Matt Weyer, Chair  
Esther Kia'Aina, Vice Chair  
Members of the Housing, Sustainability & Health Committee

Re: Support for Bill 28 Relating to Naloxone

Mtg: Wednesday June 21, 2023 2:30 PM

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Hawai'i Public Health Institute<sup>i</sup> (HIPHI) respectfully submits testimony in **support** of Bill 28 Relating to Naloxone. This measure would require that certain classes, kinds, and categories of liquor-licensed establishments maintain a specified amount of naloxone on their premises; and that managers be trained in the proper administration of naloxone.

This policy is an important one that will help to address the increasing deaths from opioids in our communities. We ask you to consider amending the bill to expand the parameters of those who would be trained in the administration of naloxone to include any "appropriate personnel" in addition to "manager" for those who would receive training. The more who are trained and gain knowledge of overdoses and the appropriate response will increase the success of the policy. Furthermore, it should be clear that no one will be held liable for providing or administering this life saving medicine. It is only effective if used; therefore, we want to ensure there are no barriers to that use.

Naloxone is a highly effective opioid receptor antagonist, which can counter the effects of an overdose when administered immediately. The life-saving effect of this medicine has saved people's lives. It is so effective and safe that the FDA has approved it for over the counter sales.

Thank you for considering our testimony this measure that supports public health.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Peggy Mierzwa'.

Peggy Mierzwa  
Director of Policy & Advocacy  
Hawai'i Public Health Institute

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<sup>i</sup> The Hawai'i Public Health Institute (HIPHI) is a hub for building healthy communities, providing issue-based advocacy, education, and technical assistance through partnerships with government, academia, foundations, business, and community-based organizations.