EXECUTIVE CAPITAL AND OPERATING BUDGET REVIEW

Testimony

MISC. COMM. 96

*BUDGET (BUD)

***BUDGET (BUD) Meeting**

Meeting Date: Mar 10, 2026 @ 09:00 AM

Support: 3

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 0

Name:	Email:	Zip:
DAPHNE ANSON	daphnea@hawaii.edu	96826
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Mar 9, 2026 @ 04:04 PM

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Angela Melody Young	alohadivinedesign@gmail.com	96826
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
CARES | Community Advocacy Research Education Services	Support	Mar 10, 2026 @ 08:15 AM

Testimony:

Support

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Racquel Achiu	rhachiu@gmail.com	96791
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Mar 10, 2026 @ 08:16 AM

Testimony:

Aloha Chair & council Members

My name is Racquel Achiu of the Waialua moku. I am a sitting Ocean Safety commissioner but am testifying as an individual. I am in FULL SUPPORT of Chief Lager, his team and the proposed Ocean Safety budget. Understanding that budget will be especially smaller this year, I am confident that council will place consideration in the continued formation of our new department. Chief Lager and his team have taken their kūleana to setting a strong foundation for the benefit and future of every OSD Officer. Efficiency and Integrity have been at the forefront of their strategy for an effective program that benefits our OSD ohana, while providing the best Ocean Safety program by the Best Watermen & Waterwomen, to ensure the safety of the public and all of our shorelines.

Mahalo nui, Racquel Achiu

Written Testimony in Support of H.B. 593
Relating to Treatment for Mental Illness
Department of Health – Intensive Mobile Team Pilot Program

Submitted to the House of Representatives Committee

Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of **H.B. 593**. My name is Daphne Anson, and I am a concerned citizen of Hawaii and a social work student who cares deeply about the health and safety of our community.

I strongly support this bill because it addresses the growing concern of individuals experiencing severe mental illness who are living on the streets without adequate support or treatment. Many residents in our community have witnessed individuals in visible distress, sometimes shouting, wandering, or unable to care for themselves. While these individuals may not always pose a direct threat, their situations show that they urgently need compassionate intervention and access to proper mental health services.

The **Intensive Mobile Team Pilot Program** proposed in this bill is an important step toward providing outreach and treatment for individuals experiencing serious mental illness. Mobile teams made up of trained professionals can respond directly in the community, connect individuals to care, and help stabilize situations before they become emergencies. This approach not only supports the well-being of the individuals involved but also improves the overall safety and stability of our neighborhoods.

As a social work student, I believe strongly in solutions that focus on treatment, support, and dignity rather than punishment or neglect. Programs like this allow professionals to meet people where they are and provide the services they need to recover and reintegrate into society.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to **support and pass H.B. 593**. Thank you for your time and for your commitment to improving mental health services in Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Daphne Anson