



**EIGHT TO WATCH - APRIL 2017  
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**HB 1501 (Drug Paraphernalia) - SUPPORT**

Reclassifies drug paraphernalia possession and delivery from a felony to a violation subject to a fine. This is an important first step in moving Hawaii away from the failed War on Drugs and towards treating drugs as a public health issue, reserving jails and prisons for serious offenses.

**SB 502 (Equal Access to IVF) - SUPPORT**

Ends the discriminatory and unlawful exclusion of same-sex couples and single women from coverage under the State's 30-year-old in vitro fertilization insurance mandate, which currently requires a woman to be married to a man before she can be covered. As this bill merely provides for equal access to an existing benefit, the State will **not** have to defray any costs under the ACA.

**HB 845 (Inmate Access to ID) - SUPPORT**

Helps inmates obtain ID cards and other vital records. This assists individuals who have paid their debt to society in their successful reentry into their communities. Successful reentry significantly increases the likelihood that someone will stay out of jail and is a key factor in reducing the number of people in jail while building safer communities.

**SB 895 (Criminal Trespass State Land) - OPPOSE**

Creates an overly harsh and vague new criminal trespass offense, adding to Hawaii's growing body of laws and rules that criminalize being poor. Fails to provide language translation for signs that notify the public that land is closed and applies to land without a fence or boundary. Additionally, the bill chills free speech and cultural practices.

**HB 1195 (Homeless Services/LEAD) - SUPPORT**

Appropriates funds to the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) Program, which is a proven game-changer in addressing drug use and homelessness by giving police new tools to divert low-level, non-violent offenders away from prison and towards health and community services.

**SB 718 (Community Court Project) - SUPPORT**

Creates the community court outreach project in Honolulu, allowing people who have been charged with low-level, nonviolent offenses to participate in rehabilitation or community service programs instead of going to jail. It's a mobile court to meet people where they're at and unburden the court system of low-level criminal cases.

**SB 429 (Social Media Privacy) -  
SUPPORT Senate version, OPPOSE HD 2**

The Uniform Law Commission's model act on social media privacy in employment and education leaves most students unprotected and contains dangerous loopholes for abuse. We support the Senate version, which protects more students and safeguards students and employees from abusive practices that invade their privacy.

**HB 461 (Resisting Arrest) - OPPOSE**

Creating a new felony—resisting arrest in the first degree—will not prevent the tragedy of an officer being fatally shot with her or his own gun, which has happened in Hawaii three times in the past 40 years. More likely, this will be used to justify police brutality (often, it is the officer's word against the defendant's) or to bolster charges against someone who would otherwise only face a misdemeanor.