

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 02, 2015 12:06 PM  
**Subject:** Council Speaker Registration/Testimony

## Speaker Registration Testimony

All fields marked "\*" are required and must be completed in order for this form to be valid.  
Note: Registrations are not accepted prior to the agendas being posted.

**Name(\*)** Sandy Sanchez  
**Phone (\*)** 8082868153  
**Email (\*)** sandy.sanchez11@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date (\*)** 2015-06-03  
**Council/PH Committee (\*)** Council  
**Agenda Item (\*)** GIA Bill 13  
**Your position on the matter (\*)** Support  
**Representing (\*)** Organization  
**Organization** Surfrider Spirit Sessions  
**Do you wish to speak at the hearing? (\*)** No

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**Written Testimony**

Sandy Sanchez, Mentor, Surfrider Spirit Sessions Phone: 808.286.8153 Email sandy.sanchez11@gmail.com Re: Support to the Amendment to the Grants In Aid Bill 13 (Appendix B5) to provide Grant in Aid funding to Surfrider Spirit Sessions Dear Members of the City Council: I am writing to support the Amendment to the Grants In Aid Bill 13 (Appendix B5) to provide Grant in Aid funding to Surfrider Spirit Sessions. I have been working with Surfrider Spirit Sessions for three years and have first hand experience working with the teenagers who go through this program. I fully believe that this program fills the gap that other programs and services in Hawaii cannot provide. The program gives at-risk teenagers the ability to learn and benefit from one-on-one mentorship and also learn that surfing can be used as a metaphor for life's lessons. Example: One of the sessions in 2014, I had the privilege to mentor a young pregnant teenage (17 yrs old). This young girl had been in and out of the court for a variety of troubles. She dropped out of school, no job, no direction and pregnant. Through the session I was able to win this young ladies trust. Through the mentoring

programs and life lessons taught through SSS. This young girl found a mentor and a group that believed in her. Because she was pregnant and wasn't able to surf, we spent hours talking. She committed to put every effort to finish her education and enroll in college. We assisted her with researching assistant programs. This young girl shortly after the program completed her GED and is now enrolled in a technical institute. I now have the opportunity to watch her progress and work towards a higher education for a better life for her and her baby girl. This is one of the many lives impacted by Surfrider spirit Sessions! Mahalo nui loa, Sandy Sanchez

**Testimony  
Attachment**

**Accept Terms and  
Conditions (\*)** 1