



**TESTIMONY OF THE STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL
TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE, 2008**

LATE TESTIMONY

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

H.B. NO. 2772, RELATING TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

BEFORE THE:

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES AND HOUSING

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2008 **TIME:** 8:50 AM

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 329
Deliver to: Committee Clerk, Room 326, 3 copies

TESTIFIER(S): Mark J. Bennett, Attorney General
or Lance M. Goto, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General supports the intent to address the problem of human trafficking.

In H.B. 2772, we note that at page 2, line 13, "Sisters Offering Support" should be deleted because that organization is no longer in operation. At page 2, lines 18-19, "Domestic Violence Clearinghouse and Legal Hotline" should be changed to "Domestic Violence Action Center" because that organization has changed its name.

The Department supports the intent of this measure so long as it does not adversely impact the priorities indicated in the Executive Supplemental Budget Request.

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
**CRIME VICTIM COMPENSATION
COMMISSION**

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PAMELA FERGUSON-BREY
Executive Director

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2772
RELATING TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Pamela Ferguson-Brey, Executive Director
Crime Victim Compensation Commission

House Committee on Human Services and Housing
Representative Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair
and

House Committee on Health
Representative Josh Green M.D., Chair

Tuesday, January 29, 2008; 8:50 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 329

Good morning Chair Shimabukuro, Chair Green and Members of the Joint House Committee on Human Services and Housing, and Health. Thank you for providing the Crime Victim Compensation Commission (the "Commission") with the opportunity to testify before you today. The Commission supports the passage of House Bill 2772. House Bill 2772 extends the sunset date for the Hawaii Anti-Trafficking Task Force to 2010; adds additional members to the Task force, including the Commission; and makes an appropriation to fund the activities of the Task Force.

The Commission was established in 1967 to mitigate the suffering and financial impact experienced by victims of violent crime by providing compensation to pay unreimbursed crime-related victim expenses. Many victims of violent crime could not afford to pay their medical bills, receive needed mental health or rehabilitative services, or bury a loved one, if compensation were not available from the Commission.

The Task Force was established in 2006 to make recommendations to the legislature to combat human trafficking, to collect data, and to draft legislation to reduce human trafficking. The Commission has attended a number of Task Force meetings and has provided input to the Task Force on the eligibility of human trafficking victims for compensation paid by the Commission.

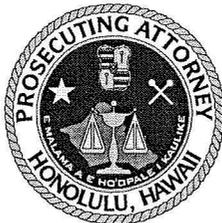
While the Task Force has made significant progress towards achieving its mandates, including presenting proposed legislation to combat human trafficking, the term of the Task Force should be extended in order to complete the analysis of the needs assessment, and to draft legislation to improve the provision of services to human trafficking victims.

Thank you for providing the Commission with an opportunity to speak in support of HB 2772.

DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
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PETER B. CARLISLE
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LATE TESTIMONY

DOUGLAS S. CHIN
FIRST DEPUTY
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

**THE HONORABLE MAILE L. SHIMABUKURO, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES AND HOUSING**

**HONORABLE JOSH GREEN, M.D., CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH**

**TWENTY-FOURTH STATE LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2008**

**HEARING: Tuesday, January 29, 2008
8:50 A.M., Conference Room 329**

RE: HOUSE BILL 2772, RELATING TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Good morning Chairs Shimabukuro and Green and members of the Human Services and Housing and Health Committees, the Department of Prosecuting Attorney provides the following testimony **in support of H.B. 2772, with amendments**, which proposes to extend the sunset date for the Hawaii Anti-Trafficking Task Force established by Act 260 of 2006, to amend the list of Task Force members, and provide an appropriation to underwrite the cost of activities carried out by the Task Force.

As a participant in the Act 260 Task Force we have diligently pursue the development of the necessary support services for victims' services to meet the diverse needs of the victims of human trafficking as well as participated in the development of a comprehensive consensus proposal for a criminal statute address the crime of human trafficking in Hawaii . We believe that this Task Force has the promoted a positive and productive effort by the diverse interests concerned about this issue in resolving the personal and social devastation created by this insidious offense. Our Department stands ready to continue its full and meaningful participation in the Task Force and supports the addition of the additional members, as proposed in this bill. The proposed new members will be able to assist in the critical task of crafting legislation that will address the extensive service needs of the victims of human trafficking. The extension of the sunset date for the Task Force to June 30, 2010 will also facilitate the accomplishment of this

task. Similarly the appropriation incorporated into the H.B. 2772 will permit the full participation of Neighbor Island members by underwriting their travel expenses.

As to amendments to the bill we referenced above, we suggest, as recommended by the Task Force, that the list of members be amended by eliminating Sisters Offering Support (which unfortunately no longer exists) and to replace the Domestic Violence Clearinghouse and Legal Hotline with the Domestic Violence Action Center, to reflect their recent name change.

In summary, we are strongly in favor of H.B. 2772, with our proposed amendments, and recommend your favorable consideration.

Thank you for your time and consideration.



the formerly battered women's caucus of hawai'i

To: Representative Shimabukuro, Chair
Representative Rhoads, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Human Services & Housing

Representative Green, Chair
Representative Mizuno, Vice Chair
Members of the Committees on Health

Date: January 29, 2008

Re: SUPPORT FOR **HB2772**, Relating To Human Trafficking

VOICES stands in support of HB2772, extending the sunset date for the Hawaii Anti-trafficking Task Force to 2010.

The term "human trafficking" seems to be the more polite way to say "slavery" but slavery is what it is. It's hard to imagine that in our 21st century that we're still struggling with a business that was put out of business in our country centuries ago, but here we are with a third-world problem right at our door. Because of Hawaii's unique geographical position, separating the eastern and western worlds, human trafficking is an unfortunate reality – a reality that needs to be exposed and stopped.

The power and control dynamics used in human trafficking to keep the business going (the use of force/violence, threats, intimidation, coercion, exploitation, torture) closely mimic the dynamics of domestic violence and both, at their core, are human rights violations. So let's do all we can to expose this so we can turn the reality of human trafficking into history.

Thank you for your time, consideration and this opportunity to testify.

Dara Carlin, M.A.

Dara Carlin, M.A.
Oahu VOICES Representative

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