

MISC. COMM. NO. 4

RECEIVED
THE SENATE
CLERK'S OFFICE
STATE OF HAWAII

EQUAL JUSTICE FOR ALL

76 North King Street #203
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

'09 APR 30 P4:43

April 30, 2009

Ms. Carol Taniguchi
Chief Clerk, Hawai'i State Senate
State Capitol, Room 010
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Citizens Petition to Pass House Bill 444 Relating to Civil Unions

Dear Ms. Taniguchi:

Equal Justice for All wishes to submit the attached petition to the Senate pursuant to Senate Rule #67. This rule authorizes "any person to petition the Senate", and requires the Clerk of the Senate to make "a brief statement of the contents of such petition" to the Senate.

This petition contains the names of 10,351 Hawai'i citizens who have chosen to exercise their constitutional right to "petition the government for a redress of grievances", pursuant to Article I, section 4, of the Hawai'i State Constitution, and Senate Rule 67.

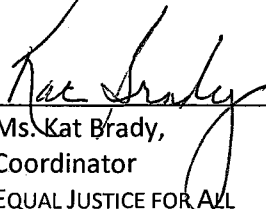
The petition, entitled "Petition to Pass HB444 Relating to Civil Unions", calls on the Hawai'i State Senate to pass House Bill 444 HD1 in this 2009 legislative session. It also asks Senator Brian Taniguchi, chair of the Senate Judiciary and Government Operations Committee, to allow the civil unions bill be voted on by the full Senate — by requesting a waiver of the referral for H.B. 444 HD1. The petition states:

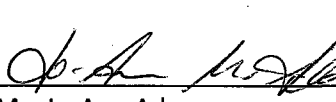
We, the undersigned, call upon the Hawaii State Senate to pass House Bill 444 HD1 in this 2009 legislative session. We also ask that Senate Judiciary Committee chair Brian Taniguchi to allow the full senate to vote on the civil unions bill this session by requesting a waiver of referral for House Bill 444 HD1.

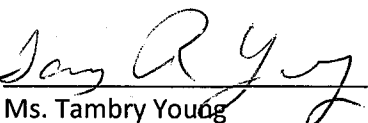
We believe that every person has the right to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness", and deserve the legal and civil rights afforded to all citizens, including the minority population of gay and lesbian individuals. Every person has the right to a loving, committed family relationship without discrimination.

The Senate's adoption of the civil unions bill, H.B. 444 HD1, this session would be much appreciated. We ask that senators heed the voices of those supporting civil unions, as evidenced in the petitions. We trust that the Senate will do the right thing. Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,


Ms. Kat Brady,
Coordinator
EQUAL JUSTICE FOR ALL


Ms. Jo-Ann Adams
Political Strategy Committee
FAMILY EQUALITY COALITION


Ms. Tambry Young
Board Member
FAMILY EQUALITY COALITION

cc: All Senators (without enclosures)