

Late

DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

ALII PLACE
1060 RICHARDS STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 547-7400 • FAX: (808) 547-7515

PETER B. CARLISLE
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

DOUGLAS S. CHIN
FIRST DEPUTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



**THE HONORABLE JOHN M. MIZUNO, CHAIR
THE HONORABLE TOM BROWER, VICE CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES**

**TWENTY-FIFTH STATE LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2009**

February 2, 2009

RE: HOUSE BILL 815; RELATING TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Good Morning Chair Mizuno and members of the Human Services Committee, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney provides the following testimony **in support of the purpose and intent of H.B. 815**, which proposes to authorize the counties to impose fees on defendants who are convicted under H.R.S. Section 709-906.

New and innovative methods of generating additional funding for programs providing services for victims of domestic violence are always welcome. The concept incorporated into H.B. 815, county fees assessed upon offenders in State Courts is one that has been previously attempted. However, the complex legal relationship between County governments and the State Judiciary is such that measure of this type will likely require a significant amount of study, negotiation, and planning if it were to generate any meaningful revenue. Existing fees imposed on convicted offenders (Crime Victim Compensation and Probation, for example) have met with mixed results due to a variety of factors that would undoubtedly have a similar impact on the effectiveness of the mechanism proposed in this bill. Similarly, the narrow parameters of the offenses covered would likely limit the effectiveness of the fees to the point that the program may generate more administrative expenses than revenues. This and similar revenue enhancement concepts deserve serious examination and consideration, but this is one time that a feasibility study is most likely the most prudent course to pursue in any serious effort to enable this type of new fee.

In conclusion, we ask for you consider amending H.B. 815 to implement a feasibility study of a variety of revenue enhancement methods to generate additional funding for domestic violence services. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Late

Cynthia Nyross

From: Dara Carlin, M.A. [! _hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 01, 2009 9:30 PM
To: HUSTestimony
Subject: HB815 to be heard MONDAY, 02/02/09 at 8:15am by the House Committee on Human Services

Importance: High

From: ail.com
To: hustestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov
Subject: HB815 to be heard MONDAY, 02/02/09 at 8:15am by the House Committee on Human Services
Date: Sun, 1 Feb 2009 20:11:48 -1000

TO: Representative John Mizuno, Chair
Representative Tom Brower, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Human Services

FROM: Dara Carlin, M.A.
881 Akiu Place
Kailua, HI 96734
(808) 218-3457

DATE: February 2, 2009

RE: Support for HB815

HB815 is a measure that benefits in a few ways: it adds an additional consequence for those who would abuse or use violence against someone who loves them, it may provide pause before someone chooses to use violence against another and it would serve as another mean to financially support domestic violence prevention programs which are typically under financial strain even without our current economic climate. The measure also provides an "ability to pay" clause which makes it a far cry from an excessive or unyielding penalty and there is a feel of justice to a convicted perpetrator literally paying for their crime.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Dara Carlin, M.A.
Domestic Violence Survivor Advocate

Windows Live™ Hotmail®...more than just e-mail. [See how it works.](#)

Windows Live™ Hotmail®:...more than just e-mail. [Check it out.](#)

Late

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB815

I support HB815, because it would authorize counties to impose fees for domestic violence prevention programs upon a conviction of domestic violence.

Josephine Besario
Resident of Hawaii