

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809

February 1, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable John M. Mizuno, Chair
House Committee on Human Services

FROM: Lillian B. Koller, Director

SUBJECT: H.B. 2158, RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES

Hearing: February 1, 2010, Monday, 8:30 a.m.
Conference Room 329, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purpose of H.B. 2158 is to require the Department of Human Services to develop grant programs to prevent and respond to domestic violence using federal stimulus funds, private foundation grants and other funds.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services is not able to support this bill for the following reasons:

1. The bill places an additional administrative burden on the Department without making provisions for the additional staffing and infrastructure that would be required to develop grant programs and obtain federal, private and other funds.


2. During the current fiscal crisis and the \$1.23 billion State budget shortfall for the biennium, the Department cannot

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support additional expenditures that are not part of the Executive priorities and budget.

The Department remains committed to financially supporting domestic violence shelters with funding that is currently available. For example, the Department already provides over \$3,000,000 in funding for domestic violence shelters through a combination of State and Federal funding sources.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.


From: Dara Carlin, M.A. [breaking-the-silence@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, January 31, 2010 3:32 PM
To: HUSTestimony
Subject: HB2158 to be heard Monday, 02/01/10 at 8:30am in Room 329

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

FROM: Dara Carlin, M.A.
Domestic Violence Survivor Advocate
881 Akiu Place
Kailua, HI 96734

LATE
Testimony

DATE: Monday; February 1, 2010

RE: Support for HB2158, Relating To Human Services

I am so excited to see this initiative that would fit like a glove to SB2083, which is being heard this afternoon at 2:15pm in Room 225.

SB2083 talks about after-school and prevention programs to address issues such as bullying and domestic violence while encouraging positive goals such as civic responsibility and healthy relationships. Bullying is not just a harmless, childhood phase that a child will grow out of or will just "get over"; bullying employs the EXACT SAME DYNAMICS as Domestic Violence because it involves the use of oppression: the use of power and control where one person gets what they want at the expense of another.

This measure, HB2158 is the perfect vehicle to make SB2083 happen! The first step in problem-solving is awareness (followed by understanding and change) and HB2158 would be that first step by developing grant programs to prevent and respond to Domestic Violence at the earliest place one could intervene: at the school level. Before there is adult Domestic Violence, there is Teen Dating Violence and before that there is Bullying. The best point to intervene is as early as you can so I am optimistic that HB2158 will support SB2083 that will be the beginning of the end to Domestic Violence in Hawaii.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully,

Dara Carlin, M.A.
Domestic Violence Survivor Advocate

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