

The Judiciary, State of Hawaii

Testimony to the House Committee on Human Services The Honorable Mele Carroll, Chair The Honorable Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

> Tuesday, January 28, 2014, 9:30 a.m. State Capitol, Conference Room 329

> > by

Tom Mick Policy and Planning Department Head, Judiciary

Bill No. and Title: House Bill No. 2035, Relating to Making an Appropriation for Domestic Violence Programs

Purpose: Appropriates funds for purchase of service contracts for domestic violence programs.

Judiciary's Position:

The Judiciary strongly supports House Bill No. 2035 which appropriates funds to the Judiciary for purchase of service (POS) contracts for domestic violence programs.

Legislative actions in 2009 due to the fiscal downturn significantly reduced the Judiciary's FY 2010 budget base by \$11.5 million (7.6% from FY 2009 to FY 2010) and eliminated 79 positions or 4% of the Judiciary's permanent workforce. Further cuts were made to Judiciary's budget base in the following two fiscal years so its budget base was reduced to less than \$133 million, or a more than 13% reduction compared to FY 2009. This necessitated significant cuts in POS contract funding for domestic violence services, as well as for other POS contracts, in the First, Second, Third, and Fifth Circuits. Some programs were eliminated while others were significantly reduced.

These cuts led to fewer services being available, fewer clients served, and longer waits to access services. They also contributed to the loss of 10 or more staff in direct service to victims and perpetrators of domestic violence, resulting in: a decrease in parenting groups, crisis

intervention services, victim support, and batterers treatment; a reduction in temporary restraining order (TRO) clients served at various sites, and victim services delivered; a significant reduction in safety planning services and other services to children exposed to domestic violence; an increase in wait time for batterers trying to enter treatment and counseling services, which means more untreated batterers residing in communities, decreasing the safety of their victims and the community in general; a decrease in the number of sites available to obtain services for batterers, victims, or children – on the Neighbor Islands this often means that services are unavailable unless the person seeking services has access to a car and is able to drive many miles; increases in requirements and fees for fee-for-services, making programs unavailable to those who cannot pay; a decrease in supervised visitations; a reduction in service provider staff work hours; and waitlists for almost all services, including waitlists for TRO support and filings.

Court statistics show that from FY 2008 to FY 2013, domestic abuse protective order filings increased by more than 17% from 4,532 to 5,318, even as the availability and extent of domestic violence services were decreasing. While some relief occurred with the passage of Act 191, SLH 2010, which provided \$1 million from the Emergency Budget and Reserve Fund to the Judiciary for domestic violence services, these funds expired at the end of FY 2012 and the Judiciary did not have any other funds available to absorb this loss and thereby continue these services. The Judiciary received some additional help from the Judiciary Appropriation Act of 2013 (Act 133, SLH 2013) which provided First Circuit more than \$600,000 for FY 2014 to begin restoring POS contract funding, a portion of which was allocated for domestic violence services.

Currently, POS contract funding projected for FY 2014 for domestic violence services is some 21% or \$1.1 million less than it was in FY 2009. Most of this decrease in funding occurred in First and Third Circuits, as Second Circuit actually increased funding for domestic violence services over this period of time by reducing other POS contract funding. The \$500,000 identified in this bill would be of great assistance in helping to restore vital domestic violence services, such as victim programs, batterer services, support groups, and crisis counseling, all of which affect the overall health of the community and the State. The Judiciary's only concern regarding this bill is to ensure that because the funding amount identified constitutes an addition to the original Judiciary budget request contained in House Bill No. 1638, this addition does not come with a corresponding reduction to any items already included in our base budget request.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 2035.

HAWAII STATE COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Date: January 28, 2014

To: Representative Mele Carroll, Chair and Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair Committee on Human Services

From: Marci Lopes, Board Chair

Re: HB 2035

Hearing Date and Time: Tuesday, January 28, 2014, 8:30 a.m.

Good morning Representative Carroll, Representative Kobayashi, and Committee members. The Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony relating to Making an Appropriation for Domestic Violence Programs.

Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence supports this restoration of funding for domestic violence service providers. In 2009, domestic violence service programs in the First Circuit alone lost over two million dollars as the economy plummeted. As the economic climate of Hawaii currently continues to improve, we feel it is imperative to restore the funding that was lost during this difficult time to adequately meet the needs of women, children, and families experiencing domestic violence.

We appreciate your consideration of our testimony.

kobayashi1-Joni

| From: | mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov |
|----------|--|
| Sent: | Monday, January 27, 2014 11:31 AM |
| То: | HUStestimony |
| Cc: | catherine.a.betts@hawaii.gov |
| Subject: | *Submitted testimony for HB2035 on Jan 28, 2014 09:30AM* |

HB2035

Submitted on: 1/27/2014 Testimony for HUS on Jan 28, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 329

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|-----------------|---|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Catherine Betts | Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women | Support | Yes |

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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- TO: Representative Mele Carroll, Chair Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice-Chair Members, Committee on Human Services
- FROM: Scott Morishige, Executive Director, PHOCUSED
- HEARING: House Committee on Human Services Tuesday, January 28, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. in Conf. Rm. 329

Testimony in Support of <u>HB2035</u>, <u>Making an Appropriation</u> for Domestic Violence Programs

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony **in strong support** of HB2035, which appropriates \$500,000 out of State general funds for purchase of service contracts for domestic violence services. PHOCUSED is a statewide coalition of health, housing, and human services organizations committed to strengthening policies and programs that benefit the marginalized and underserved in Hawaii. PHOCUSED strongly supports the appropriation of State general funds for domestic violence services, including victims programs, batterers intervention programs, court outreach, support groups, crisis counseling, legal advocacy, and legal representation for victims.

In 2009, State funding for domestic violence programs were reduced dramatically due to the economic downturn. Although the language in HB2035 states that funding for domestic violence services was decreased by \$570,000, the actual reduction in domestic violence funding was far more substantial. While Hawaii's economy has slowly begun to recover over the past few years, funding for domestic violence services have not been fully restored and continue to fall short of pre-2009 levels.

Domestic violence services, such as those provided by State Purchase of Service providers, are critical to ensuring the safety of Hawaii's community. When fewer community resources for domestic violence survivors are available, survivors often feel more isolated, risking their safety and recovery.

PHOCUSED strongly urges your support of this bill and requests amendments that would fully restore funding for purchase of service contracts for domestic violence services to pre-2009 levels. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact PHOCUSED at 521-7462 or by e-mail at admin@phocused-hawaii.org.



HAWAII DISABILITY RIGHTS CENTER

1132 Bishop Street, Suite 2102, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Phone/TTY: (808) 949-2922 Toll Free: 1-800-882-1057 Fax: (808) 949-2928 E-mail: info@hawaiidisabilityrights.org Website: www.hawaiidisabilityrights.org

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 2014

Committee on Human Services Testimony in of Support of S.B. 1754 Relating to Persons With Disabilities

Tuesday January, 28, 2014, 9:30 A.M. Conference Room 329

Chair Carroll and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Disability Rights Center testifies in support of this bill. While much progress has been made in the past few decades to promote the rights of individuals with disabilities, one area that has lagged behind has been the competitive, integrated employment of individuals with disabilities. While there are many factors accounting for this, one clear barrier is the loss or fear of loss of Medicaid benefits, be it the health care coverage or the home and community waiver benefits which accompany the receipt of Medicaid.

For that reason, the Medicaid Buy In Program has long appeared to be a viable option and one we very much support. This would encourage individuals with disabilities to seek gainful employment and enjoy more fulfilling, productive lives. It would also ensure that they would maintain the services that they need to successfully live in the community. We served as a member of the Medicaid Buy In Task Force that has been convened in the interim since the last legislative session. We are in general support of the efforts of the Task Force and the most recent draft that was agreed upon at the last meeting.

We would however like to state that we do feel that the current Task Force draft does not go sufficiently far with enough speed to accomplish what is needed. There is a delayed implementation date of three years and we feel that is much too long a period of time to be meaningful. Further, there is an appropriation to conduct outreach and training for the program. Frankly, we do not consider this to be the best use of state funds. We are of the view that that money should be appropriated to actually provide



HAWAII'S PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY SYSTEM FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES HAWAII'S CLIENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



the services sooner in the most cost effective, efficient way. Delaying the program for three years and spending money on outreach and training seems to miss the more essential reasons for creating this program in the first place. Nonetheless, we do continue to support the efforts of the Task Force and recognize that further discussions will occur during the legislative session, such that the bill will likely be refined as the process moves along.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

91-1841 Fort Weaver Road Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706 Phone 808.681.3500 Fax 808.681.5280 Email cfs@cfs-hawaii.org www.childandfamilyservice.org

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January 27, 2013

Hearing Date and Time:

To:

Place:



Chair Rep. Mele Carroll Vice Chair Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi Members of the House of Representatives Committee on Human Services From: Howard S. Garval, MSW, President & CEO Child & Family Service

> January 28, 2013, 9:30 a.m. Conference Room 329

RE: HB2035—Making an Appropriation for Domestic Violence Programs

Good morning Chair Carroll, Vice-Chair Kobayashi and members of the House of Representatives Committee on Human Services. I am Howard Garval, President & CEO of Child & Family Service, Hawaii's oldest and most comprehensive human services organization founded in 1899. Our mission is: strengthening families and fostering the healthy development of children. Our organization touches the lives of over 40,000 of Hawaii's residents each year serving keiki to kupuna on every island. We are the only organization that operates more than one domestic abuse shelter as we have two on Oahu and two on the Big Island. We also provide services for the Domestic Violence Advocacy program funded by DHS for women who receive a waiver from Jobs First due to domestic violence. In terms of HB2035, we also provide Judiciaryfunded court ordered education and anger management intervention services for perpetrators and court advocacy for the victims and their children.

Child & Family Service strongly supports HB2035 which appropriates POS funds for the Judiciary for FY '15. These funds would go towards providing domestic violence intervention services in the state.

Judiciary funding for domestic violence services in fiscal year 2013 is 36% less than it was in FY2009, even with rainy day funds in FY11 and FY12. These rainy day funds ran out as of June 30, 2012, and we appreciate the First Circuit Court's efforts last session to restore some of the previous funding cuts. The impact of the funding reductions has hampered our program's ability to provide timely and responsive services and has had the following impact on programs that support domestic violence victims across the state:

Reduced families visits from weekly to once or twice per month,

Closed visitation centers on Leeward Oahu, which has resulted in increasing the waitlist for visitation services in other visitation sites.

Decreased the number of hours the crisis line is open;

Decreased the number of crisis walk-ins, forcing victim/survivors to have to return for services on another day;

Decreased the number of groups available to victim/survivors;

Delayed group intervention for non-English speaking offenders and victim/ survivors, especially for those who speak Chuukese and/or Marshallese.

Our Mission: Strengthening Families and Fostering the Healthy Development of Children

Chair Rep. Mele Carroll, Vice Chair Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Members of the House of Representatives Committee on Human Services HB2035—Making an Appropriation for Domestic Violence Programs Page 2

Created waiting lists for offenders ordered domestic violence intervention services, and Eliminated programs such as parenting groups, programs for children who experience domestic violence, counseling for survivors, adult and teen offenders, and support to the families of the teens.

While we are appreciative of the Legislature's restoration of funding last session in the Judiciary budget, funding shortages have created greater and greater vulnerabilities in the network of services which survivors need for their safety, escape, and self-sufficiency. The \$500,000 additional funding in this bill will take another important step to restore services. We thank the Women's Caucus in the Hawaii State Legislature for supporting this bill.

Domestic violence victims and their families deserve access to community services that provide safety and offer the hope of recovery. Therefore we urge the Committee to pass HB2035.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

With Aloha,

Howard S. Garval, MSW, President & CEO, Child & Family Service



- TO: Chair Mele Carroll Vice Chair Bertrand Kobayashi Members of the Committee
- FR: Nanci Kreidman, M.A. Chief Executive Officer

RE: H.B. 2035

Aloha! And thank you for hearing this Bill so we may begin the discussion about the community's need for domestic violence services early in the 2014 Session.

In 2009, there was a significant cut to the programs supported with Judiciary Purchase of Services Contracts. Reduction in services and lay off of staff was the result, for victim support programs, batterers intervention programs, and specialized domestic violence legal advocacy programs.

Rainy Day funds provided some offset to the enormity of the loss to many programs, but after the evaporation of Rainy Day Funds, it has been a scramble for programs to secure funds in an effort to re-build what was lost. You will recall that programs supported by public and private funds were forced to compete in a very tight marketplace for dollars available through private foundation, private donors, and events-when the economy had impacted these arenas as well.

The Department of Human Services and the Department of Health began several years ago to restore funds for community contracts. The Judiciary made its first request to increase funding by legislative appropriation in 2013. For the Domestic Violence Action Center, this resulted in a \$51,000 increase in our contract. The original amount our contract was reduced totaled \$570,000.

It simply is not possible to raise, through other means, this amount of funding support to continue providing the unduplicated, specialized programs that are in steady demand from the Domestic Violence Action Center. Our only option is to rebuild in a measured, manageable way, funding to support our island families who are suffering the harm of abuse.

Families are at the core of our community. And we are dismissing the significance of the consequences to our community if we do not focus attention and investment in families who need services, safety, and support as they escape or heal from their suffering.

In the first six months of this fiscal year service to the community is reflected in the following:

- DVAC staff had telephone contact with 5,756 callers
- 230 Requests for legal representation received
- 183 Legal cases Opened, 177 cases Closed
- 150 Advocacy Cases Opened, 120 Cases Closed
- 921 EXPO Court Outreach Cases Opened, 194 Cases Closed
- 251 Court appearances by agency attorneys
- 1,160 hours working on document preparation and in court proceedings
- 472 Accompaniments with clients to agencies, appointments or court
- 2,484 Safety plans completed, 1,620 Risk assessments conducted
- 2,470 Students, educators & service providers trained through Teen Alert program.

In the last 14 years, DVAC's work included:

- DVAC Staff had Telephone Contact with 247,704 Callers
- 5,787 Requests for Legal Representation Received
- 4,531 Legal Cases Opened
- 3,980 Legal Cases Closed
- 3,917 Advocacy Cases Opened
- 4,457 Advocacy Cases Closed
- 6,980 Court appearances by Agency Attorneys
- 27,533 Hours Working on Document Preparation and in Court Proceedings
- 19,575 Accompaniments with Clients to Agencies, Appointments for Court
- 44,812 Safety Plans Completed
- 43,851 Risk Assessments Conducted

Teen Alert Program (program began in 2 0 0 2)

• 53,063 Students, Educators & Service providers Trained through Teen Alert Program

This Bill does need to be amended as Section 1, incorrectly states that the funding support to the Judiciary was cut by \$570,000. The total is significantly more than that. The \$570,000 is the loss that DVAC, alone, suffered. Please accept our gratitude for your engagement in this important conversation about the needs that remain to be addressed. Domestic violence continues to challenge our community systems and our island families. Costs and incidence have not abated. Law enforcement, courts, health care, corrections, social services and mental health services are all impacted by this crime. Learning difficulties exist, adverse health outcomes result and public safety is at increased risk. Together we can navigate a course to peace. Mahalo.



TO: Representative Mele Carroll, Chair House Committee on Human Services

Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair House Committee on Human Services

- FROM: Ruthann Quitiquit President & CEO
- **DATE:** January 27, 2014
 - **RE:** In Strong Support of HB 2035, Making an Appropriation for Domestic Violence Programs

My name is Ruthann Quitiquit and I am the President & CEO of Parents And Children Together. My agency provides a comprehensive array of domestic violence services for victims, their children, and their batterers. PACT also operates a 24/7 crisis counseling line, a shelter for women and children, a transitional shelter for single women and supervised visitation and exchange for parents estranged by divorce or separation. PACT has been a long standing member of the Hawaii Coalition Against Domestic Violence and serves on several community initiatives whose focus is the prevention and treatment of domestic violence. I **strongly urge you to support passage of HB 2035.**

The ripple effect of the 2008 economic downturn impacted services nationwide. By 2009, funding that supported domestic violence services had been cut drastically, forcing providers in Hawaii to hobble together, along with the Rainy Day Funds, makeshift budgets that could barely support lower levels of care for this population. Given the monies available, providers like PACT laid off and/or did not fill existing vacancies. Fortunately, in 2013 the Judiciary budget restored some of the funding loss five years prior. Those restored funds were shared between all POS providers within Adult Client Services Branch of the First Circuit.

The \$500,000 requested in SB 2035 will help to restore advocacy, safety planning, crisis management services and increase supervised visitation opportunities for more families. The safety of women and children, as well as the safety of batterers from themselves are public health issues and speak to the needs of the most vulnerable in our community. Domestic violence is an epidemic that can be found in all social strata, impacting days missed from work, school attendance and performance and the overall vitality of communities. Fully funded domestic violence programs can be the best antidote.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony **in strong support of HB 2035**. If you would like to speak further with me about this important issue, please feel free to call me at 847-3285.

1485 Linapuni Street, Suite 105, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96819 Tel. (808) 847-3285 Fax (808) 841-1485 www.pacthawaii.org Hawaii Family Law Clinic



January 27, 2014

COMMETTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES Rep. Mele Carroll, Chair Rep. Bertram Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HB 2035 TESTIMONY RELATING MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PRORAGAMS Appropriates funds for purchase of services contracts for domestic violence programs

Aloha Chair Carroll, Vice Chair Kobayashi and members of the committee:

The Hawaii Family Law Clinic dba Ala Kuola is non-profit organization that has provided services to victims of domestic abuse/violence on Oahu since 2006 to obtain temporary restraining orders (TRO's). For the past five years there have been an average of approximately 2,881 temporary restraining orders filed with the Family Court on Oahu.

From November 2009 to approximately June 2011 when the Judiciary was forced into furloughs due to the State of Hawaii's budget crisis, Ala Kuola was approached by then Chief Justice Moon and Senior Judge Francis Wong to assist the Judiciary to help victims of domestic abuse to obtain TRO's. Ala Kuola was honored to fill this crucial gap in services and assumed the role as the only venue where an individual was able to obtain a TRO.

This proposed funding is crucial to many victim services that rely on funding sources such as proposed.

We strongly support passage of HB 2035 so victims of abuse will receive safety and a continuum of care.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Ed Flores Executive Director

550 Halekauwila Street, Suite 201, Honolulu, HI 96813; Telephone No. (808) 545-1880

Moloka**>**í Community Service Councíl

Post Office Box 2047 ! Kaunakakai, Hawaiʻi 96748

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January 27, 2014

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES Representative Mele Carroll, Chair Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

State Capitol 415 S. Beretania St. Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: <u>Testimony in Support of HB 2035</u> Hearing: Tuesday, January 28, 2014, 8:30 a.m.

We support HB 2035, which would restore Judiciary funding for critical domestic violence services. Our organization provides TRO's and anger management classes for the island of Moloka'i. Before the recession, Moloka'i programs were receiving approximately \$110,000/year from the Judiciary to support these services. After the recession, Judiciary funding was slashed to \$39,000/year, with additional payments based on services. This resulted in an average annual income of \$44,000. Judiciary funding for our island was reduced by 60%, and it has remained static since the cut.

TRO's for victims and batterers intervention classes for perpetrators are critical components of the drive to end domestic violence. We strongly urge you to restore Judiciary funding for these services on Moloka'i, and throughout the state.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Karen M. Holt

Karen M. Holt Executive Director



January 27, 2014

| То: | Rep. Mele Carroll, Chair; Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair; and Members of the House Committee on Human Services |
|----------|--|
| From: | Denise Miura |
| Hearing: | HUS (January 28, 2014, 9:30 a.m.) |
| Bill: | HB 2035 (Relating to Appropriation for Domestic Violence Programs) |

Chair Carroll, Vice Chair Kobayashi and Committee Members,

I am writing to ask for your strongest support of HB 2035. I'm a grateful beneficiary of the Domestic Violence Action Center's services. Most people don't understand what it's like to be in our shoes, but DVAC does—and I wouldn't be where I am today without them. My healing will endure for a lifetime, but DVAC was critically instrumental in my journey—and continue to stand with me today.

Only recently I've begun to speak out on my experience in the hopes of putting a relatable face to this chronic problem in our community. I would've liked to testify in person, but even if my work schedule would allow it, I'm afraid that it's still quite difficult for me to speak about it in public.

It is my heartfelt hope that everyone who needs this type of assistance will find it. Hopefully with your support of HB 2035, more hurting families can begin their own journey toward healing, health and happiness as well.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

1/1

Supportive Testimony

Tuesday, January 28, 2014 9:30AM Conference Room 329 State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street

- TO: Chair Mele Carroll Vice Chair Bertrand Kobayashi Members of the Committee
- FR: Lois Magnussen Professor and Director of faculty development in the School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene UH

RE: H.B. 2035

I am very supportive of the important work that DVAC does in the community. It fills a need that is not met in any other quarter and provides necessary support for women and families. I urge the Committee to restore POS funding for DV programs in the Judiciary budget.



West Hawaii Office P.O. Box 1808 Kealakekua, HI 96750 Telephone: (808) 323-2664 Facsimile: (808) 323-2999

Fax Coversheet

TO: Michelle Rocch, MSCP FAX#: FOS. 841.6028 FROM: David Sachdon DATE: 1-27-14 SUBJECT: Tastimony NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING FAX COVERSHEET): Please call (808) 323-2664 if you do not receive all pages.

Moha Michelle -

Hope this helps - we could sure use the additional funding -David

Strengthening families and fostering the healthy development of children

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81-6587 Mamalahoa Hwy. P. O. Box 1808 Kealakekua, Hawaii 96750 Phone 808.323.2664 Fax 808.323.2999 Email cis@cishawali.org www.childandfamilyzer/ice.org

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No. 0640 P. 2 Child & Family s E R V I C E Private, nonprofit since 1899

Date: January 28, 2014

To: Representative Mele Carroll, Chair and Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair Committee on Human Services

From: <u>David Saindon, Program Director</u> Domestic Violence Programs, West-<u>Hawaii Island</u>

Re: HB 2035

Hearing Date and Time: Tuesday, January 28, 2014, 8:30 a.m.

Child and Family Service is in support of HB 2035 to restore funding for critical

domestic violence services. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, An P.D.

David Saindon, Program Director Domestic Violence Programs West- Hawaii Island



COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES Rep. Mele Carroll, Chair Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

| DATE: | Tuesday, January 28, 2014 |
|--------|---------------------------|
| TIME: | 9:30AM |
| PLACE: | Conference Room 329 |

STRONG SUPPORT FOR HB 2035 that: Would restore needed funds for purchase of service contracts for domestic violence programs.

Aloha Chair Carroll, and committee members,

Here's some "fun" facts about Domestic Violence in the Nation gleaned from our research.

- Domestic violence is the leading cause of injury to women between the ages of 15 and 44 in the United States, more than car accidents, muggings, and rapes combined. ("Violence Against Women, A Majority Staff Report," Committee on the Judiciary, United States Senate, 102nd Congress, October 1992, p.3.)
- An estimated 1.3 million women are victims of physical assault by an intimate partner each year. (Costs of Intimate Partner Violence Against Women in the United States. 2003. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Centers for Injury Prevention and Control. Atlanta, GA.)
- There are 16,800 homicides and \$2.2 million (medically treated) injuries due to intimate partner violence annually, which costs \$37 billion. (The Cost of Violence in the United States. 2007. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Centers for Injury Prevention and Control. Atlanta, GA.)

Bottom line - Domestic Violence (DV) can be considered an epidemic with all the long-term harmful societal effects that this pernicious blight can cause.

Here's the story in Hawai'i according to a one-day 2012 snap-shot of Domestic Violence services, by The National Network To End Domestic Violence.

- Victims made more than 60 requests for services, including emergency shelter, housing, transportation, childcare, and legal representation, which could not be provided because programs did not have the resources to offer these services.
- 17% of unmet requests were for housing emergency shelter and transitional housing.

Those surveyed gave the following reasons for the inability to meet victims' immediate needs. 63% reported not enough staff. 31% reported limited funding for needed programs and services. How did this happen? In 2009 funding for DV services was cut drastically. Although providers did their best to cope using Rainy Day funds to offset losses for two years, patching together whatever other sources they could find, they still had to lay-off staff with the consequent loss of critical services to victims.

Although the 2013 Judiciary budget restoration provided small increases to DV programs, funds restored to the budget were divided among all POS providers within Adult Client Services Branch in the First Circuit: juveniles, victim services programs, batterers programs, legal advocacy programs, sex offender programs all sharing the pot. The end-result for DV victims is that the need continues to outstrip the ability of providers to give necessary services.

The Coalition is in strong support of this bill that is part of our regular 2014 Package. Please pass the important bill out of committee.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify, Ann S. Freed Co-Chair, Hawai'i Women's Coalition Contact: annsfreed@gmail.com Phone: 808-623-5676



House Committee on Human Services The Hon. Mele Carroll, Chair The Hon. Betrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

Testimony on House Bill 2035 <u>Making an Appropriation for Domestic Violence Programs</u> Submitted by Robert Hirokawa, Chief Executive Officer 01/28/2014, 9:30 A.M., Room 329

The Hawai'i Primary Care Association, which represents community health centers in Hawai'i, **supports** House Bill 2035, which provides \$500,000 in general funds for purchase of service contracts for domestic violence programs that provide services including victims programs, batterers intervention programs, court outreach, support groups, crisis counseling, legal advocacy, and legal representation for victims.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

| Date: | January 28, 2014 |
|-------|--|
| То: | Representative Mele Carroll, Chair Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair Committee on Human Services |
| From: | Lucy Feinberg, Maui Regional Director |
| Re: | HB 2035 |

Hearing Date and Time: Tuesday, January 28, 2014, 8:30 a.m.

Parents And Children Together is in support of HB 2035 to restore funding for critical domestic violence services. As you may remember, funding for these vital services was cut several years ago and has yet to be returned to the adequate amounts. Thank you for your consideration of this important source of funding for domestic violence services throughout the state.

Please feel free to contact me at <u>mauilfeinberg@pacthawaii.org</u> or at 808.244.2330 should you have any questions.



| Date: | January 28, 2014 | | |
|-------|--|--|--|
| То: | Representative Mele Carroll, Chair Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair Committee on Human Services | | |
| From: | Stacey Moniz, Executive Director | | |
| Re: | HB 2035 | | |

Hearing Date and Time: Tuesday, January 28, 2014, 8:30 a.m.

Women Helping Women is in support of HB 2035 to restore funding for critical domestic violence services. As you may remember, funding for these vital services was cut several years ago and has yet to be returned to the adequate amounts. Thank you for your consideration of this important source of funding for domestic violence services throughout the state.

Please feel free to contact me at director@whwmaui.net or at 808.446.7434 should you have any questions.

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kobayashi1-Joni

| From: | mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov |
|----------|--|
| Sent: | Tuesday, January 28, 2014 9:29 AM |
| То: | HUStestimony |
| Cc: | tambry.young@gmail.com |
| Subject: | Submitted testimony for HB2035 on Jan 28, 2014 09:30AM |

HB2035

Submitted on: 1/28/2014 Testimony for HUS on Jan 28, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 329

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing | |
|--------------|--------------|---------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Tambry Young | Individual | Support | No | |

Comments: Citizens for Equal Right ask that you pass this bill. Domestic violence programs helps victims recover from situations that are life threatening and leave them with few options. Appropriations will assist organizations with servicing victims and to help create an environment that is safe and secure as they go through a difficult time. Citizens for Equal Right urges you to pass this bill. Tambry R. Young President - Citizens for Equal Rights

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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