

STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

P. O. Box 339  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

February 2, 2015

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: The Honorable Dee Morikawa, Chair  
House Committee on Human Services

FROM: Rachael Wong, DrPH, Director

SUBJECT: **H.B. 446 – RELATING TO ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY**

**Hearing: Tuesday, February 3, 2015; 8:30 am  
Conference Room 329, State Capitol**

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this bill is to establish the address confidentiality program to help survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault relocate and keep their addresses confidential. This bill also creates the address confidentiality program surcharge fund.

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the intent of this bill, provided it does not adversely impact nor replace the priorities in the Executive Biennium Budget. We respectfully defer to the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) on the feasibility of its implementation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this bill.

HAWAII  
STATE  
COMMISSION  
ON THE  
STATUS  
OF  
WOMEN



Chair  
LESLIE WILKINS

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Executive Director  
Catherine Betts, JD

Email:  
Catherine.a.betts@hawaii.gov  
Visit us at:  
humanservices.hawaii.gov  
/hscsw/

235 S. Beretania #407  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
Phone: 808-586-5758  
FAX: 808-586-5756

February 3, 2015

To: Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair  
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Human Services

From: Cathy Betts  
Executive Director, Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women

Re: Testimony in Support, HB 446, Relating to Address Confidentiality

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of HB 446, which would establish an address confidentiality program for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. HB 446 would assist victims by allowing them to use a substitute legal address in place of their physical address. Additionally, HB 446 would provide for a mail forwarding system for program participants, so that perpetrators of violence against women would not be able to seek out and find victims' physical addresses.

Thirty-six other states in the nation have enacted and successfully implemented address confidentiality programs. The program originated in Washington in 1991. Lawmakers saw a need for victims to remain safe, yet still be accessible for service of process, child support enforcement, voting and drivers license registration, etc.

Offenders often use public data to find their victims. In cases of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking, this entails the intensive use of people search engines which have proliferated over the last decade. For a small fee, it is very simple for people to find out personal information about their victims, including social media profiles, email addresses, and physical addresses.

Other states that have successfully implemented address confidentiality programs see the programs as vital to protecting victims of violence. However, the programs are most successful when government agencies communicate and collaborate with victim service agencies to make victims' safety and privacy a priority. The Commission urges the passage of HB 446, and would likewise recommend a strong outreach and education campaign within the division that will implement this program.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.





TO: Chair Dee Morikawa  
Vice Chair Bertrand Kobayashi  
Members of the Committee

FR: Nanci Kreidman, M.A

RE: HB 446 Support

I would like to thank the committee for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this bill establishing an Address Confidentiality Program ("ACP") in Hawaii. The ACP creates a mechanism to assist survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking relocate and keep their addresses confidential.

Since 1991, thirty-six states enacted legislation and launched ACP's. The legislative intent of every program is to protect the location of a survivor's actual address and reduce the risk of future harm. Women in Hawaii who are fleeing domestic abuse must leave their home and relocate to a safe place. However, each woman is only safe so long as her abuser does not track her down. Advancing Internet technologies, the release of personal information by state agencies, and Court-ordered disclosures in family court proceedings make it easier than ever for abusers to locate survivors. The risks may also prove deadly for the woman who underestimates the lengths to which her abuser will go to continue the abuse. Further, the fear of having identifying information disclosed has actually deterred survivors from filing restraining orders, and divorce complaints.

There are countless women whose lives may be saved as a result of this legislation. These are not perceived or imagined threats to survivor's safety. Last year, a survivor of sexual assault was terrorized in her home by her abuser two and a half years after she relocated. Last week, a woman with a young child reported her abuser found her months after she relocated. He sat outside her home in his car. After enduring years of domestic abuse, his presence alone was a threat. There is no question an ACP is necessary in the State of Hawaii.

This testimony is provided to your committee to respectfully request the passage of House Bill 446, which reflects a significant legislative concern for survivors of domestic violence, and a desire to facilitate their efforts to start a new life free from abuse.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



# TRANSMITTAL

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**DATE:** January 31, 2015

**TO:** The Honorable Dee Morikawa, Chair  
The Honorable Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair  
Committee on Human Services

**FROM:** Adriana Ramelli  
The Sex Abuse Treatment Center

**RE:** H.B. 446 Relating to Address Confidentiality

**Hearing:** 02/03/2015, 8:30 a.m.- 10:30 a.m.

This transmittal consists of 2 pages including this cover sheet.

**Sender:** Justin Murakami

**Please call 535-7158 if you do not receive all of the pages.**



# THE SEX ABUSE TREATMENT CENTER

*A Program of Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children*

*Executive Director*  
Adriana Ramelli

*Advisory Board*

*President*  
Mimi Beams

*Vice President*  
Peter Van Zile

Joanne H. Arizumi

Mark J. Bennett

Andre Bisquera

Marilyn Carlsmith

*Senator*  
Suzanne Chun Oakland

Monica Cobb-Adams

Donne Dawson

Dennis Dunn

*Councilmember*  
Carol Fukunaga

David I. Haverly

Linda Jameson

Michael P. Matsumoto

Gidget Ruscetta

Joshua A. Wisch

DATE: February 3, 2014

TO: The Honorable Dee Morikawa, Chair  
The Honorable Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Human Services

FROM: Adriana Ramelli, Executive Director  
The Sex Abuse Treatment Center

RE: H.B. 446  
Relating to Address Confidentiality

Good afternoon Chair Morikawa, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Committee on Human Services. My name is Adriana Ramelli and I am the Executive Director of the Sex Abuse Treatment Center (SATC), a program of the Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children, an affiliate of Hawai'i Pacific Health.

SATC supports H.B. 446, establishing an address confidentiality program to help survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault relocate and keep their addresses confidential, and providing funding for this program by creating the address confidentiality program surcharge fund.

Most sexual assaults are not committed by strangers, but by intimate partners, family members, and acquaintances. Moreover, sexual assault often does not occur in isolation, but can be one feature of a pattern violence and intimidation between non-strangers that also includes physical abuse and stalking. In order to assure their own safety and the safety of loved ones, survivors are sometimes forced to relocate in order to avoid further actual or threatened violence.

Unfortunately, modern search technologies and access to public records make it easy for perpetrators to find survivors' new addresses. This places survivors in harm's way and can complicate the difficult task of recovering from the trauma of sexual assault.

By providing survivors the means to shield their actual locations through the use of substitute addresses, and by penalizing unauthorized disclosures of actual address information, H.B. 446 allows the State of Hawai'i to send a strong message reaffirming that survivors have a right to privacy and safety. In addition, H.B. 446 represents an opportunity to place Hawai'i on equal footing with 36 other states that have already enacted address confidentiality programs.

Therefore, we urge you to support H.B. 446 to ensure that survivors of sexual assault who are forced to relocate to escape their attackers are able to enjoy the security and peace of mind that is due to them. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



February 3, 2015

To: Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair  
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair  
Members of the **House Committee on Human Services**

From: Dr. Susan J. Wurtzburg  
Policy Chair, American Association of University Women – Hawaii

Re. **Testimony in Support, HB 446, Relating to Address Confidentiality**

I am grateful for this opportunity to testify in strong support of HB 446, providing for address confidentiality of gender violence survivors (specifically of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking, each of them, serious crimes). The ability to use a substitute legal address is key to the safety of survivors.

Many years ago, I worked for Christchurch Women's Refuge (a Battered Women's Shelter) in New Zealand. At that time, New Zealand had address confidentiality, and it was an essential strand of police and court policy for maintaining survivors' safety. Providing this service for victims of violence is important since the ultimate penalty for survivors who are located by violent perpetrators is death or serious injury.

It should also be noted that in the USA, many other states (currently 36) have enacted similar types of programs since the early 1990s. Given that we now have 25 years of data indicated the success of these laws for diminishing violence towards adults and children, the time seems ripe for moving HB 446 into Hawaiian law. The success of the law is best ensured by including public outreach and education in the initiative.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.





February 3, 2015

To: Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair  
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair and  
Members of the Committee on Human Services

From: Jeanne Y. Ohta, Co-Chair

RE: HB 446 Relating to Address Confidentiality  
Hearing: Tuesday, February 3, 2015, 8:30 a.m., Room 329

POSITION: Strong Support

The Hawai'i State Democratic Women's Caucus writes in strong support of HB 446 Relating to Address Confidentiality which would establish an address confidentiality program for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. HB 466 would provide a life-saving tool by allowing survivors to use a substitute legal address in place of their physical address. Additionally, HB 466 would provide for a mail forwarding system so that their physical address would remain confidential.

Thirty-six other states in the nation have implemented address confidentiality programs. Violent partners are very resourceful and determined to harm their victims; the availability of search engines, social media, and other on-line resources have made it easier to discover personal information.

This confidentiality program will help to keep vulnerable women and children safe from their abusers. We urge the committee to pass this measure.

The Hawai'i State Democratic Women's Caucus is a catalyst for progressive, social, economic, and political change through action on critical issues facing Hawaii's women and girls. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

**kobayashi2-Lynda**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, January 30, 2015 5:59 PM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** kalawaiag@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB446 on Feb 3, 2015 08:30AM\*

**HB446**

Submitted on: 1/30/2015

Testimony for HUS on Feb 3, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kalawai'a Goo	Individual	Support	No

**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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**kobayashi2-Lynda**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 31, 2015 8:07 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** jlouis@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB446 on Feb 3, 2015 08:30AM\*

**HB446**

Submitted on: 1/31/2015

Testimony for HUS on Feb 3, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jamie Louis	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

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**kobayashi2-Lynda**

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 01, 2015 1:10 PM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** wctanaka@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB446 on Feb 3, 2015 08:30AM

**HB446**

Submitted on: 2/1/2015

Testimony for HUS on Feb 3, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wayne	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Address Confidentiality Program's (ACP) have been passed in 36 states since 1991. Essentially they create a mechanism to help survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking relocate and keep their addresses confidential. There is no good reason not to support this measure!

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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February 3, 2015

**Testimony in Support of HB446, Relating to Address Confidentiality**

**To:** Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair  
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Human Services

**From:** Fawn Jade Koopman, Esq.

**Re:** Testimony in Support of HB 446, Relating to Address Confidentiality

I would like to thank the committee for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this bill establishing an Address Confidentiality Program (“ACP”) in Hawaii. The ACP creates a mechanism to assist survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking relocate and keep their addresses confidential.

Since 1991, thirty-six states enacted legislation and launched ACP’s. The legislative intent of every program is to protect the location of a survivor’s actual address and reduce the risk of future harm. Women in Hawaii who are fleeing domestic abuse must leave their home and relocate to a safe place. However, each woman is only safe so long as her abuser does not track her down. Advancing Internet technologies, the release of personal information by state agencies, and Court-ordered disclosures in family court proceedings make it easier than ever for abusers to locate survivors. The risks may also prove deadly for the woman who underestimates the lengths to which her abuser will go to continue the abuse. Further, the fear of having identifying information disclosed has actually deterred survivors from filing restraining orders, and divorce complaints.

There are countless women whose lives may be saved as a result of this legislation. These are not perceived or imagined threats to survivor’s safety. Last year, a survivor of sexual assault was terrorized in her home by her abuser two and a half years after she relocated. Last week, a woman with a young child reported her abuser found her months after she relocated. He sat outside her home in his car. After enduring years of domestic abuse, his presence alone was a threat. These women were my clients, and it is because of their stories and experiences that an ACP is necessary in the State of Hawaii.

This testimony is provided to your committee to respectfully request the passage of House Bill 446, which reflects a significant legislative concern for survivors of domestic violence, and a desire to facilitate their efforts to start a new life free from abuse.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

TESTIMONY BY WESLEY K. MACHIDA  
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
STATE OF HAWAII  
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES  
ON  
HOUSE BILL NO. 446

**LATE**

February 3, 2015

RELATING TO ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY

House Bill No. 446 establishes within the State treasury a special fund to be known as the Address Confidentiality Program Surcharge Fund. The bill authorizes the deposit of gifts, grants, donations, and 95% of the \$28 surcharge paid by individuals who are convicted of crimes set forth in the bill, such as stalking. The disbursements of money from the fund are to be used to pay for the administration costs incurred by the Address Confidentiality Program to be administered by the Department of Accounting and General Services.

The Department of Budget and Finance does not take any position on the proposed Address Confidentiality Program; however, as a matter of general policy, the department does not support the creation of any special fund which does not meet the requirements of Section 37-52.3 of the HRS. In regards to House Bill No. 446, it is difficult to determine whether the proposed source of revenues will be self-sustaining or if there is a clear nexus between benefits sought and charges made upon the users or beneficiaries of the program.

I encourage the Legislature to scrutinize the fiscal and operational plan for this program to ensure that it does conform to the requirements of Section 37-52.3, HRS.



STATE OF HAWAII  
**CRIME VICTIM COMPENSATION  
COMMISSION**

1136 Union Mall, Suite 600  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Telephone: 808 587-1143  
FAX 808 587-1146

MARI MCCAIG  
Chair

MARTHA ROSS  
Interim Commissioner

ABELINA SHAW  
Commissioner

PAMELA FERGUSON-BREY  
Executive Director

**LATE**

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 446  
RELATING TO ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY

Pamela Ferguson-Brey, Executive Director  
Crime Victim Compensation Commission

House Committee on Human Services  
Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair  
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 3, 2015; 8:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 329

Chair Morikawa, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and Members of the House Committee on Human Services:

Thank you for providing the Crime Victim Compensation Commission ("Commission") with the opportunity to submit testimony in support with amendment to clarify the priority of payment on House Bill 446, Relating to Address Confidentiality. House Bill 446 establishes the address confidentiality program to help survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking relocate and keep their addresses confidential. The measure also creates a court fee to be imposed on and collected from persons convicted of certain crimes.

The Commission was established in 1967 to mitigate the suffering and financial impact experienced by crime victims of violent crime by providing compensation to pay un-reimbursed crime-related expenses. Many victims of violent crimes 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.

The Commission supports House Bill 446 with an amendment to clarify the order of payment. The bill proposes a fee to be imposed on certain criminal defendants but does not state the priority in which the fee should be collected. The Commission proposes an amendment that will make the bill consistent with other provisions of the Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS).

HRS § 706-605(6), § 706-646(2), § 706-648(2), § 706-650.5, and § 846F-3, states that the courts shall collect restitution first, the Crime Victim Compensation Fee (Compensation Fee) second, the probation fee third, all other fees fourth, and fines last. This priority recognizes the importance of addressing the crime victim's needs first. The Compensation Fee is the Commission's main source of revenue. The collection of the Compensation Fee has diminished in recent years.

#### PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CLARIFY THE PRIORITY OF PAYMENT

The Commission proposes that § \_\_-12(e) of the bill be amended to add the following language:

When a defendant is ordered to make payments in addition to the fee, payments by the defendant shall be made in the following order of priority:

- (a) Restitution;
- (b) Crime victim compensation fee;
- (c) Probation services fee;
- (d) Other fees; and
- (e) Fines.

Thank you for providing the Commission with the opportunity to testify in support with amendment to clarify the priority of payment on House Bill 446.



**LATE**

February 3rd, 2015

**To:** Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair  
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Human Services

**From:** Sarah Miller, William S. Richardson School of Law J.D. Candidate, Class of 2015

**Re:** Testimony in **SUPPORT** of HB446, Relating to Address Confidentiality

I strongly support House Bill 446, establishing an Address Confidentiality Program (“ACP”) in Hawai‘i. The ACP creates a mechanism to assist survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking relocate and keep their addresses confidential.

As a law clerk at the Hawai‘i Immigrant Justice Center at Legal Aid, I worked closely with survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault and I know firsthand the importance of keeping a survivor’s whereabouts confidential. I learned that a simple measure such as this could be the difference between life and death for a survivor, and for this reason, it is imperative that we have a program like the ACP to help protect their location to reduce the risk of harm.

I urge this committee to pass House Bill 446 to help survivors stay safe and live a life free from abuse.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

**kobayashi2-Lynda**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 02, 2015 9:09 PM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** rainawhiting@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB446 on Feb 3, 2015 08:30AM

**Categories:** Red Category

**LATE****HB446**

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

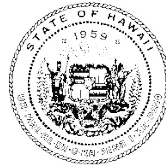
Testimony for HUS on Feb 3, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
K. Raina Whiting	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I would like to thank the committee for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this bill establishing an Address Confidentiality Program ("ACP") in Hawaii. The ACP creates a mechanism to assist survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking relocate and keep their addresses confidential. Since 1991, thirty-six states enacted legislation and launched ACP's. The legislative intent of every program is to protect the location of a survivor's actual address and reduce the risk of future harm. Women in Hawaii who are fleeing domestic abuse must leave their home and relocate to a safe place. However, each woman is only safe so long as her abuser does not track her down. Advancing Internet technologies, the release of personal information by state agencies, and Court-ordered disclosures in family court proceedings make it easier than ever for abusers to locate survivors. The risks may also prove deadly for the woman who underestimates the lengths to which her abuser will go to continue the abuse. Further, the fear of having identifying information disclosed has actually deterred survivors from filing restraining orders, and divorce complaints. There are countless women whose lives may be saved as a result of this legislation. These are not perceived or imagined threats to survivor's safety. Last year, a survivor of sexual assault was terrorized in her home by her abuser two and a half years after she relocated. Last week, a woman with a young child reported her abuser found her months after she relocated. He sat outside her home in his car. After enduring years of domestic abuse, his presence alone was a threat. This testimony is provided to your committee to respectfully request the passage of House Bill 446, which reflects a significant legislative concern for survivors of domestic violence, and a desire to facilitate their efforts to start a new life free from abuse. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

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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**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES**  
P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

**LATE**

WRITTEN TESTIMONY  
OF  
DOUGLAS MURDOCK, COMPTROLLER  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE  
ON  
HUMAN SERVICES  
ON  
FEBRUARY 3, 2015

H.B. 446

RELATING TO ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY

Chair Morikawa and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on H.B. 446. The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) offers the following comments on H.B. 446.

Because the scope of H.B. 446 impacts a cross-section of stakeholders, including the Judiciary, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, and the Office of Elections, among others, DAGS respectfully requests that the measure be deferred so that meaningful discussions can be undertaken with these and other interested entities before moving forward with implementing an address confidentiality program.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on this matter.



**LATE**

PROTECTING HAWAII'S OHANA, CHILDREN, UNDER SERVED, ELDERLY AND DISABLED

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*John McComas*  
*Robert Naniolo*  
*Darcie Scharfenstein*  
*Alan Shinn*

TO: Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair  
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair  
Members, Committee on Human Services

FROM: Scott Morishige, Executive Director, PHOCUSED

HEARING: House Committee on Human Services  
**Tuesday, February 3, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. in Conf. Rm. 329**

**Testimony in Support of HB446, Relating to Address Confidentiality.**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support** of HB446, which would establish an address confidentiality program to help survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault to relocate and keep their addresses confidential. PHOCUSED is a nonprofit membership and advocacy organization that works together with community stakeholders to impact program and policy change for the most vulnerable in our community, including victims of domestic violence.

Our membership includes organizations, such as Child & Family Service, Parents & Children Together, and Domestic Violence Action Center, which serve victims of domestic violence and their families. Based on the input of these organizations, as well as feedback received from the Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence, we support the proposed legislation.

Once again, PHOCUSED urges your support of this bill. We strongly believe that this will be a step in the right direction for victims of domestic violence and their families. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact PHOCUSED at 521-7462 or by e-mail at [admin@phocused-hawaii.org](mailto:admin@phocused-hawaii.org).



Hawaii Women's Coalition

**LATE**

**COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES**

**Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair**

**Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair**

**Members of the House Committee on Human Services**

DATE: Tuesday, February 03, 2015

TIME: 8:30 a.m.- 10:30 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 329

**STRONG SUPPORT FOR HB 446**, Relating to Address Confidentiality which would establish an address confidentiality program for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

One of the ways that perpetrators of domestic violence use the system to get at their victims is by using the residential address listed in a TRO or other court document that requires the victim to list her address.

HB 446 would plug this dangerous loophole by allowing victims to use a substitute legal address in place of their physical address. HB 446 would provide for a mail forwarding system for program participants, so that perpetrators of violence against women would not be able to seek out and find victims' physical addresses.

Offenders often use public data to find their victims. In cases of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking, this entails the intensive use of people search engines that have proliferated over the last decade. For a small fee, it is very simple for people to find out personal information about their victims, including social media profiles, email addresses, and physical addresses.

The address confidentiality program originated in Washington in **1991. Since then, thirty-six other states in the nation have enacted and successfully implemented address confidentiality programs**. States that have successfully implemented address confidentiality programs see them as vital to protecting victims of violence. However, the programs are most successful when government agencies communicate and collaborate with victim service agencies to make victims' safety and privacy a priority.

The Coalition urges the passage of HB 446, and would likewise recommend a strong outreach and education campaign within the division that to successfully implement this program.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Ann S. Freed Co-Chair, Hawai'i Women's Coalition

Contact: [annsfreed@gmail.com](mailto:annsfreed@gmail.com) Phone: 808-623-5676

**kobayashi2-Lynda**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 02, 2015 11:24 PM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** drodrigues2001@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB446 on Feb 3, 2015 08:30AM

**LATE**

**Categories:** Red Category

**HB446**

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for HUS on Feb 3, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Darlene Rodrigues	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I STRONGLY SUPPORT HB446. This measure provides an important tool for survivors of domestic violence, privacy and confidentiality. As a former domestic violence educator and advocate, I learned that the most dangerous time for a survivor in a domestic violence relationship is when the survivor decides to leave the relationship. It is imperative that we support survivors in their quest for freedom from abuse. I strongly urge you to pass this measure. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit this late testimony.

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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