

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310
P.O. Box 541
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
Phone Number: 586-2850
Fax Number: 586-2856
cca.hawaii.gov

CATHERINE P. AWAKUNI COLÓN
DIRECTOR

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**PRESENTATION OF THE
PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL LICENSING DIVISION**

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2016

Monday, March 14, 2016
2:00 p.m.

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 2333, S.D. 1, RELATED TO LICENSED
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS.**

TO THE HONORABLE ANGUS L.K. MCKELVEY, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Lynn Bhanot, and I am the Executive Officer of the Marriage and Family Therapists Program (“Program”), Professional and Vocational Licensing Division of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (“Department”). Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on Senate Bill No. 2333, S.D. 1.

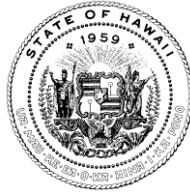
The Department and the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Hawaii Division (“AAMFT Hawaii”) had a discussion about the proposed bill and the Program is in support of Senate Bill No. 2333, S.D. 1.

This change will align Hawaii’s law with essentially all of the other states that use the title “licensed marriage and family therapist” (“LMFT”). Also, the proposed revisions

in this bill will reduce confusion about the status of licensees who are LMFTs in Hawaii who have met the same standards as LMFTs in other states.

While the Program believes there may be benefits to this measure's proposed insertion of the term "licensed" before existing statutory references to the title "marriage and family therapists", the Program defers to the Regulated Industries Complaints Office regarding any enforcement-related concerns about these revisions.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 2333, S.D. 1.



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310
P.O. Box 541
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
Phone Number: 586-2850
Fax Number: 586-2856
cca.hawaii.gov

CATHERINE P. AWAKUNI COLÓN
DIRECTOR

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**PRESENTATION OF
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
REGULATED INDUSTRIES COMPLAINTS OFFICE**

**TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON
CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE**

**TWENTY-EIGHTH STATE LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 2016**

**MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2016
2:00 P.M.**

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 2333 S.D.1
RELATED TO LICENSED MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS**

**TO THE HONORABLE ANGUS L.K. MCKELVEY, CHAIR,
AND TO THE HONORABLE JUSTIN H. WOODSON, VICE CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:**

The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department") appreciates the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2333 S.D.1, Related to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists. My name is Daria Loy-Goto and I am the Complaints and Enforcement Officer for the Department's Regulated Industries Complaints Office ("RICO"). RICO offers comments on Sections 1 through 10 of the bill.

Senate Bill No. 2333 S.D.1, in Sections 1 through 10, amends Chapter 451J, Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS"), to add the phrase "or licensed marriage and family therapist" after "marriage and family therapist".

As originally drafted, the bill proposed amendments to Chapter 451J, HRS, which would have narrowed RICO's enforcement authority. Senate Bill No. 2333 S.D.1 addresses RICO's enforcement concerns with the addition of the phrase "or licensed marriage and family therapist".

RICO notes that this Committee previously heard the House companion measure, House Bill No. 1629, passing out a House Draft 1 with amendments to Chapter 451J, HRS, that are substantially similar to the amendments in this bill. House Bill No. 1629 H.D.1 was not heard by the House Committee on Judiciary and did not cross over.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2333 S.D.1. I will be happy to answer any questions the Committee may have.

March 9, 2016

TO: Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

FROM: Joy Quick, MFT, Past President of AAMFT Hawaii

RE: HB 1629 Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists - **SUPPORT**

March 14, 2016 2:00pm Conference Room 325

Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair, Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, I am Joy Quick. I am a Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support SB 2333, SD1 (SSCR 2492) Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill with the amendment for the following reasons:

- As RICO pointed out in the amendment, both titles 1) Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and 2) Marriage and Family Therapist should be legally protected and used only by individuals who have fully met the license requirements.
- Consumer Protection: Adding “Licensed” to the Marriage and Family Therapist license statute will reduce confusion within the therapy seeking public who may be looking for a licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT) and find only MFTs in Hawaii.
- This change would align the legal title for Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapists with the same distinction for licensed marriage and family therapists (LMFT) in all of the other states except for Wisconsin.
- Adding “Licensed” to the statute will reduce any confusion about therapists who are licensed MFTs in Hawaii who have met the same standards as LMFTs in other states. Without this change to our legal title, job opportunities can be affected when we are in competition with LMFTs from other states. These jobs are predominantly with active duty military, National Guard, and reserve personnel and their families. Some MFTs working for the Federal Government have informally adopted LMFT as their preferred credential, which is not currently recognized here.

- Adding “Licensed” to the statute will reduce confusion among post-graduate marriage and family therapy interns who often do not understand the legal distinction of MFT, and may utilize the title inappropriately. Often these graduates expect to become LMFTs once they are licensed, based on what they experienced in other parts of the country.

I urge your favorable consideration of SB 2333, SD 1 (SSCR 2492). Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

March 11, 2016

TO: Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

FROM: Mark Matsushita, AAMFT President Elect

RE: SB 2333 Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists - **SUPPORT**

March 14, 2016 2:00pm Conference Room 325

Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair, Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, I am Mark Matsushita. I am a Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support SB 2333, SD1 (SSCR 2492) Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill with the amendment for the following reasons:

- As RICO points out in the amendment, both titles 1) Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and 2) Marriage and Family Therapist should be legally protected and used only by individuals who have fully met the license requirements.
- Consumer Protection: Adding “Licensed” to the Marriage and Family Therapist license statute will reduce confusion within the therapy seeking public who may be looking for a licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT) and find only MFTs in Hawaii.
- This change would align the legal title for Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapists with the same distinction for licensed marriage and family therapists (LMFT) in all of the other states except for Wisconsin.
- Adding “Licensed” to the statute will reduce any confusion about therapists who are licensed MFTs in Hawaii who have met the same standards as LMFTs in other states. Without this change to our legal title, job opportunities can be affected when we are in competition with LMFTs from other states. These jobs are predominantly with active duty military, National Guard, and reserve personnel and their families. Some MFTs working for the Federal Government have informally adopted LMFT as their preferred credential, which is not currently recognized here.
- Adding “Licensed” to the statute will reduce confusion among post-graduate marriage and family therapy interns who often do not understand the legal distinction of MFT, and may utilize the title inappropriately. Often these graduates expect to become LMFTs once they are licensed, based on what they experienced in other parts of the country.

I urge your favorable consideration of SB 2333, SD 1 (SSCR 2492). Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair & Rep. Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair

RE: SB 2333

Monday/3-14-16

2:00 PM/Room 325

My name is Joseph S Martelles Jr. and I am testifying in support of bill SB 2333 in adding the word "licensed" before the term "marriage and family therapist" in the Hawaii Revised Statutes for clarity. Due to sharing the social working field of practice, I feel it to be extremely important to have it recognized equally as is the other 48 states in this great nation. The practice in establishing the knowledge and title of the profession deserves nothing less than the word "licensure" in front of it, and it does not leave question to insure providers.

Mahalo,

Joseph S Martelles Jr.
martellesj@gmail.com
Ph: (808) 866-6143

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 10, 2016 10:46 PM
To: CPCtestimony
Cc: janetcovingtoncounseling@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2333 on Mar 14, 2016 14:00PM

SB2333

Submitted on: 3/10/2016

Testimony for CPC on Mar 14, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Janet Covington	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am a Licensed Mental Health Counselor and support the use of "Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist" for Hawaii MFTs.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

March 11, 2016

TO: Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

FROM: Dr. John Souza, Jr., MA, D.MFT, LMFT (MN #2252 & HI #MFT-397)

RE: SB 2333 Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists - **SUPPORT**

March 14, 2016 2:00pm Conference Room 325

Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair, Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, I am John Souza, Jr. I am a Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support SB 2333, SD1 (SSCR 2492) Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill with the amendment for the following reasons:

- As RICO points out in the amendment, both titles 1) Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and 2) Marriage and Family Therapist should be legally protected and used only by individuals who have fully met the license requirements.
- Consumer Protection: Adding “Licensed” to the Marriage and Family Therapist license statute will reduce confusion within the therapy seeking public who may be looking for a licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT) and find only MFTs in Hawaii.
- This change would align the legal title for Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapists with the same distinction for licensed marriage and family therapists (LMFT) in all of the other states except for Wisconsin.
- Adding “Licensed” to the statute will reduce any confusion about therapists who are licensed MFTs in Hawaii who have met the same standards as LMFTs in other states. Without this change to our legal title, job opportunities can be affected when we are in competition with LMFTs from other states. These jobs are predominantly with active duty military, National Guard, and reserve personnel and their families. Some MFTs working for the Federal Government have informally adopted LMFT as their preferred credential, which is not currently recognized here.

- Adding “Licensed” to the statute will reduce confusion among post-graduate marriage and family therapy interns who often do not understand the legal distinction of MFT, and may utilize the title inappropriately. Often these graduates expect to become LMFTs once they are licensed, based on what they experienced in other parts of the country.

I urge your favorable consideration of SB 2333, SD 1 (SSCR 2492). Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

March 11, 2016

TO: Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

FROM: Michelle Davenport, LMFT

RE: SB 2333 Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists - **SUPPORT**

March 14, 2016 2:00pm Conference Room 325

Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair, Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, I am Michelle Davenport. I am a Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support SB 2333, SD1 (SSCR 2492) Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill with the amendment for the following reasons:

- As RICO points out in the amendment, both titles 1) Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and 2) Marriage and Family Therapist should be legally protected and used only by individuals who have fully met the license requirements.
- Consumer Protection: Adding “Licensed” to the Marriage and Family Therapist license statute will reduce confusion within the therapy seeking public who may be looking for a licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT) and find only MFTs in Hawaii.
- This change would align the legal title for Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapists with the same distinction for licensed marriage and family therapists (LMFT) in all of the other states except for Wisconsin.
- Adding “Licensed” to the statute will reduce any confusion about therapists who are licensed MFTs in Hawaii who have met the same standards as LMFTs in other states. Without this change to our legal title, job opportunities can be affected when we are in competition with LMFTs from other states. These jobs are predominantly with active duty military, National Guard, and reserve personnel and their families. Some MFTs working for the Federal Government have informally adopted LMFT as their preferred credential, which is not currently recognized here.

- Adding “Licensed” to the statute will reduce confusion among post-graduate marriage and family therapy interns who often do not understand the legal distinction of MFT, and may utilize the title inappropriately. Often these graduates expect to become LMFTs once they are licensed, based on what they experienced in other parts of the country.

I urge your favorable consideration of SB 2333, SD 1 (SSCR 2492). Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

March 10, 2016

TO: Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

FROM: Julie Segawa, LMFT

RE: SB 2333 Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists - **SUPPORT**

March 14, 2016 2:00pm Conference Room 325

Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair, Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, I am Julie Segawa. I am a **Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapist** and I strongly support SB 2333, SD1 (SSCR 2492) Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill with the amendment for the following reasons:

- As RICO points out in the amendment, both titles 1) Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and 2) Marriage and Family Therapist should be legally protected and used only by individuals who have fully met the license requirements.
- Consumer Protection: Adding “Licensed” to the Marriage and Family Therapist license statute will reduce confusion within the therapy seeking public who may be looking for a licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT) and find only MFTs in Hawaii.
- This change would align the legal title for Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapists with the same distinction for licensed marriage and family therapists (LMFT) in all of the other states except for Wisconsin.
- Adding “Licensed” to the statute will reduce any confusion about therapists who are licensed MFTs in Hawaii who have met the same standards as LMFTs in other states. Without this change to our legal title, job opportunities can be affected when we are in competition with LMFTs from other states. These jobs are predominantly with active duty military, National Guard, and reserve personnel and their families. Some MFTs working for the Federal Government have informally adopted LMFT as their preferred credential, which is not currently recognized here.

- Adding “Licensed” to the statute will reduce confusion among post-graduate marriage and family therapy interns who often do not understand the legal distinction of MFT, and may utilize the title inappropriately. Often these graduates expect to become LMFTs once they are licensed, based on what they experienced in other parts of the country.

I urge your favorable consideration of SB 2333, SD 1 (SSCR 2492). Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

-
-

- March 11, 2016

TO: Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair

Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair

Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

FROM: Steven P. Katz, Marriage and Family Therapist,
Member of board of Directors, National Alliance on Mental
Illness - Hawaii

RE: SB 2333 Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family
Therapists - SUPPORT

March 14, 2016 2:00pm Conference Room 325

Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair, Representative
Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair, and members of the House
Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, I am
Steven Katz. I am a Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family
Therapist and I strongly support SB 2333, SD1 (SSCR 2492)
Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill with the amendment for the
following reasons:

- As RICO points out in the amendment, both titles 1)
Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and 2) Marriage and
Family Therapist should be legally protected and used only
by individuals who have fully met the license requirements.

- Consumer Protection: Adding “Licensed” to the Marriage and Family Therapist license statute will reduce confusion within the therapy seeking public who may be looking for a licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT) and find only MFTs in Hawaii.
- This change would align the legal title for Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapists with the same distinction for licensed marriage and family therapists (LMFT) in all of the other states except for Wisconsin.
- Adding “Licensed” to the statute will reduce any confusion about therapists who are licensed MFTs in Hawaii who have met the same standards as LMFTs in other states.

Without this change to our legal title, job opportunities can be affected when we are in competition with LMFTs from other states. These jobs are predominantly with active duty military, National Guard, and reserve personnel and their families. Some MFTs working for the Federal Government have informally adopted LMFT as their preferred credential, which is not currently recognized here.

- Adding “Licensed” to the statute will reduce confusion among post-graduate marriage and family therapy interns who often do not understand the legal distinction of MFT, and may utilize the title inappropriately. Often these graduates expect to become LMFTs once they are licensed, based on what they experienced in other parts of the country.

I urge your favorable consideration of SB 2333, SD 1 (SSCR 2492). Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely, Steven P. Katz, 152-F North Kalaheo Ave, Kailua, HI 96734 808-220-3625

March 11, 2016

TO: Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair

Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice-Chair'

Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

FROM: Britt Young, LMFT

RE: SB 2333 Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists-- SUPPORT

March 14, 2016 2:00 p.m. Conference Room 325

Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair, Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice-Chair, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce, my name is Britt Young, and I am a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist in Illinois and Hawaii. I strongly support SB 2333 (SSCR 2492) Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists.

As an LMFT in Illinois and an MFT in Hawaii, I support this bill because it would eliminate confusion in the mental health field regarding who is licensed and who is not. By having the "L" before the MFT here in Hawaii, we can better align with standards throughout the U.S. and allow our local therapists to compete for federal jobs, which often require the designation of LMFT.

Unfortunately, many employers don't understand that there is a distinct difference between a licensed marriage and family therapist and a marriage and family therapist who has not completed the licensing requirements. For those of us who have completed the rigorous licensing requirements, it's only fair that we have a way to distinguish ourselves from those who have not--or are in the process of doing so.

Having worked as a Marriage and Family Therapist in two states on the mainland, I can tell you that the "L" before the MFT is a big deal, and often makes the difference between getting a job and not getting a job. We need to be on the same page as other states, so our clients know exactly what kind of training we have.

In short, we licensed Marriage and Family Therapists have put in an extraordinary amount of work to get licensed here, and we should be able to show that to our clients without confusion. By adding an "L" to MFT, our clients will know exactly what they are getting.

I urge your consideration of SB 2333, SD1 (SSCR 2492). Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

March 11, 2016

TO: Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

FROM: Rebekah Mraz MFT #232

RE: SB 2333 Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists - **SUPPORT**

March 14, 2016 2:00pm Conference Room 325

Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair, Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, I am Rebekah Mraz MFT #232. I am a Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support SB 2333, SD1 (SSCR 2492) Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill with the amendment for the following reasons:

- As RICO points out in the amendment, both titles 1) Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and 2) Marriage and Family Therapist should be legally protected and used only by individuals who have fully met the license requirements.
- Consumer Protection: Adding “Licensed” to the Marriage and Family Therapist license statute will reduce confusion within the therapy seeking public who may be looking for a licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT) and find only MFTs in Hawaii.
- This change would align the legal title for Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapists with the same distinction for licensed marriage and family therapists (LMFT) in all of the other states except for Wisconsin.
- Adding “Licensed” to the statute will reduce any confusion about therapists who are licensed MFTs in Hawaii who have met the same standards as LMFTs in other states. Without this change to our legal title, job opportunities can be affected when we are in competition with LMFTs from other states. These jobs are predominantly with active duty military, National Guard, and reserve personnel and their families. Some MFTs working for the Federal Government have informally adopted LMFT as their preferred credential, which is not currently recognized here.

- Adding “Licensed” to the statute will reduce confusion among post-graduate marriage and family therapy interns who often do not understand the legal distinction of MFT, and may utilize the title *inappropriately*. Often these graduates expect to become LMFTs once they are licensed, based on what they experienced in other parts of the country.

I urge your favorable consideration of SB 2333, SD 1 (SSCR 2492). Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Rebecca L. Meaz MFT

March 11, 2016

TO: Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

FROM: Michael Macias

RE: SB 2333 Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists - **SUPPORT**

March 14, 2016 2:00pm Conference Room 325

Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair, Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, I am Michael Macias. I am a student in the Masters of Science Counseling Program (MSCP) at Chaminade University and I strongly support SB 2333, SD1 (SSCR 2492) Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill with the amendment for the following reasons:

- As RICO points out in the amendment, both titles 1) Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and 2) Marriage and Family Therapist should be legally protected and used only by individuals who have fully met the license requirements.
- Consumer Protection: Adding “Licensed” to the Marriage and Family Therapist license statute will reduce confusion within the therapy seeking public who may be looking for a licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT) and find only MFTs in Hawaii.
- This change would align the legal title for Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapists with the same distinction for licensed marriage and family therapists (LMFT) in all of the other states except for Wisconsin.
- Adding “Licensed” to the statute will reduce any confusion about therapists who are licensed MFTs in Hawaii who have met the same standards as LMFTs in other states. Without this change to our legal title, job opportunities can be affected when we are in competition with LMFTs from other states. These jobs are predominantly with active duty military, National Guard, and reserve personnel and their families. Some MFTs working for the Federal Government have informally adopted LMFT as their preferred credential, which is not currently recognized here.

- Adding “Licensed” to the statute will reduce confusion among post-graduate marriage and family therapy interns who often do not understand the legal distinction of MFT, and may utilize the title inappropriately. Often these graduates expect to become LMFTs once they are licensed, based on what they experienced in other parts of the country.

I urge your favorable consideration of SB 2333, SD 1 (SSCR 2492). Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

March 11, 2016

TO: Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

FROM: Linda Tesar-Amimoto, MFT, CGT

RE: SB 2333 Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists - **SUPPORT**

March 14, 2016 2:00pm Conference Room 325

Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair, Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, I am Linda Tesar-Amimoto. I am a Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support SB 2333, SD1 (SSCR 2492) Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill with the amendment for the following reasons:

- As RICO points out in the amendment, both titles 1) Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and 2) Marriage and Family Therapist should be legally protected and used only by individuals who have fully met the license requirements.
- Consumer Protection: Adding “Licensed” to the Marriage and Family Therapist license statute will reduce confusion within the therapy seeking public who may be looking for a licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT) and find only MFTs in Hawaii.
- This change would align the legal title for Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapists with the same distinction for licensed marriage and family therapists (LMFT) in all of the other states except for Wisconsin.
- Adding “Licensed” to the statute will reduce any confusion about therapists who are licensed MFTs in Hawaii who have met the same standards as LMFTs in other states. Without this change to our legal title, job opportunities can be affected when we are in competition with LMFTs from other states. These jobs are predominantly with active duty military, National Guard, and reserve personnel and their families. Some MFTs working for the Federal Government have informally adopted LMFT as their preferred credential, which is not currently recognized here.

- Adding “Licensed” to the statute will reduce confusion among post-graduate marriage and family therapy interns who often do not understand the legal distinction of MFT, and may utilize the title inappropriately. Often these graduates expect to become LMFTs once they are licensed, based on what they experienced in other parts of the country.

I urge your favorable consideration of SB 2333, SD 1 (SSCR 2492). Thank you for this opportunity to testify in writing.

March 12, 2016

TO: Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

FROM: Michelle Lee, MFT

RE: SB 2333 Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists - **SUPPORT**

March 14, 2016 2:00pm Conference Room 325

Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair, Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, I am Michelle Lee. I am a Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support SB 2333, SD1 (SSCR 2492) Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill with the amendment for the following reasons:

- As RICO points out in the amendment, both titles 1) Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and 2) Marriage and Family Therapist should be legally protected and used only by individuals who have fully met the license requirements.
- Consumer Protection: Adding "Licensed" to the Marriage and Family Therapist license statute will reduce confusion within the therapy seeking public who may be looking for a licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT) and find only MFTs in Hawaii.
- This change would align the legal title for Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapists with the same distinction for licensed marriage and family therapists (LMFT) in all of the other states except for Wisconsin.
- Adding "Licensed" to the statute will reduce any confusion about therapists who are licensed MFTs in Hawaii who have met the same standards as LMFTs in other states. Without this change to our legal title, job opportunities can be affected when we are in competition with LMFTs from other states. These jobs are predominantly with active duty military, National Guard, and reserve personnel and their families. Some MFTs working for the Federal Government have informally adopted LMFT as their preferred credential, which is not currently recognized here.
- Adding "Licensed" to the statute will reduce confusion among post-graduate marriage and family therapy interns who often do not understand the legal distinction of MFT, and may utilize the title inappropriately. Often these graduates expect to become LMFTs once they are licensed, based on what they experienced in other parts of the country.

I urge your favorable consideration of SB 2333, SD 1 (SSCR 2492). Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

March 13, 2016

TO: Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

FROM: Alan Tamai, LMFT, CSAC

RE: SB 2333 Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists - **SUPPORT**
March 14, 2016 2:00pm Conference Room 325

Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair, Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, I am Alan Tamai. I am a Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support SB 2333, SD1 (SSCR 2492) Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill with the amendment for the following reasons:

- As RICO points out in the amendment, both titles 1) Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and 2) Marriage and Family Therapist should be legally protected and used only by individuals who have fully met the license requirements.
- Consumer Protection: Adding “Licensed” to the Marriage and Family Therapist license statute will reduce confusion within the therapy seeking public who may be looking for a licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT) and find only MFTs in Hawaii.
- This change would align the legal title for Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapists with the same distinction for licensed marriage and family therapists (LMFT) in all of the other states except for Wisconsin.
- Adding “Licensed” to the statute will reduce any confusion about therapists who are licensed MFTs in Hawaii who have met the same standards as LMFTs in other states. Without this change to our legal title, job opportunities may be affected when we are in competition with LMFTs from other states. These jobs are predominantly with active duty military, National Guard, and reserve personnel and their families. Some MFTs working for the Federal Government have informally adopted LMFT as their preferred credential, which is not currently recognized here.
- Adding “Licensed” to the statute will reduce confusion among post-graduate marriage and family therapy interns who often do not understand the legal distinction of MFT, and may utilize the title inappropriately. Often these graduates expect to become LMFTs once they are licensed, based on what they experienced in other parts of the country.

I urge your favorable consideration of SB 2333, SD 1 (SSCR 2492). Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Alan Tamai, LMFT, CSAC

LATE

March 13, 2016

TO: Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

FROM: Virginia Jones, LMFT Addictions and Family Therapist

RE: SB 2333 Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists - **SUPPORT**

March 14, 2016 2:00pm Conference Room 325

Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair, Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce: My name is Virginia Jones and I am a Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support SB 2333, SD1 (SSCR 2492) Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill with the amendment for the following reasons:

- Adding “Licensed” to the statute will reduce any confusion about therapists who are licensed MFTs in Hawaii who have met the same standards as LMFTs in other states. Without this change to our legal title, job opportunities can be affected when we are in competition with LMFTs from other states. These jobs are predominantly with active duty military, National Guard, and reserve personnel and their families. *As a licensed MFT working for the Federal Government, I have had to formally adopt the credential “LMFT” as my only recognized credential at work, which makes me out of line with my peers and colleagues outside of the clinical environs of the federal government.*
- As RICO points out in the amendment, both titles 1) Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and 2) Marriage and Family Therapist should be legally protected and used only by individuals who have fully met the license requirements.
- Consumer Protection: Adding “Licensed” to the Marriage and Family Therapist license statute will reduce confusion within the therapy seeking public who may be looking for a licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT) and find only MFTs in Hawaii.
- This change would align the legal title for Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapists with the same distinction for licensed marriage and family therapists (LMFT) in all of the other states except for Wisconsin.
- Adding “Licensed” to the statute will reduce confusion among post-graduate marriage and family therapy interns who often do not understand the legal distinction of MFT, and may utilize the title inappropriately. Often these graduates expect to become LMFTs once they are licensed, based on what they experienced in other parts of the country.

I urge your favorable consideration of SB 2333, SD 1 (SSCR 2492). Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

LATE

CYNTHIA CARLTON-JARMON, MFT, LLC

**3608 Diamond Head Circle
Honolulu, HI 96815**

March 13, 2016

TO: Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
FAX #: 808-568-6071

FROM: Cynthia Carlton-Jarmon, MFT
FAX#: 808-842-1936

RE: SB 2333 Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists - SUPPORT

March 14, 2016 2:00pm Conference Room

To Whom It May Concern:

Please find attached testimony supporting SB2333, SD1 (SSCR 2492).

Thank you,

Cynthia Carlton-Jarmon, MFT

Pages including this cover = three (3)

197 Sand Island Access Road, Suite #201 3608 Diamond Head Circle
Honolulu, HI 96819 Honolulu, HI 96815

March 13, 2016

TO: Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

FROM: Cynthia Carlton-Jarmon, MFT

RE: SB 2333 Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists - **SUPPORT**

March 14, 2016 2:00pm Conference Room 325

Representative Angus L. K. McKelvey, Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, I am Cynthia Carlton-Jarmon. I am a Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support SB 2333, SD1 (SSCR 2492) Relating to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill with amendment for the following reasons:

- As RICO points out in the amendment, both titles (1) Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and (2) Marriage and Family Therapist should be legally protected and used only by individuals who have fully met the license requirements.
- Consumer Protection: Adding "Licensed" to the Marriage and Family Therapist license statute will reduce confusion within the therapy seeking public who may be looking for a licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT) and find only MFTs in Hawaii.
- This change would align the legal title for Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapist with the same distinction for licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT) in all of the other states except for Wisconsin.
- Adding "Licensed" to the statute will reduce any confusion about therapists who are licensed MFTs in Hawaii who have met the same standards as LMFTs in other states. Without this change to our legal title, job opportunities can be affected when we are in competition with LMFTs from other states. These jobs are predominantly with active duty military, National Guard, and reserve personnel and their families. Some MFTs working for the Federal Government have informally adopted LMFT as their preferred credential, which is not currently recognized here.

- Adding "Licensed" to the statute will reduce confusion among post-graduate marriage and family therapy interns who often do not understand the legal distinction of MFT, and may utilize the title inappropriately. Often these graduates expect to become LMFTs once they are licensed, based on what they experienced in other parts of the country.

I urge your favorable consideration of SB 2333, SD1 (SSCR2492). Thank you for this opportunity to testify.


Cynthia Carlton-Jarmon, MFT
Retired, United States Army