



HAWAII STATE COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Date: February 9, 2015

To: Senator Will Espero, Chair

Senator Rosalyn H Baker, Vice-Chair

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

From: Marci Lopes, Executive Director

Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence

RE: SB 389 – STRONG SUPPORT

PLACE: Conference Room 229

DATE and TIME: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 1:15 p.m.

The Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence is a statewide partnership of 21 domestic violence program and domestic violence shelter providers on 6 of our Hawaiian Islands. Our mission is to engage communities and organizations to end domestic violence through education, advocacy, and action for social justice.

As a result of the highly publicized incident in which an officer abused his former girlfriend and the public outrage and concern that ensued, an informational briefing was scheduled. As the Executive Director for the Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence I provided testimony in that briefing. Testimony about the police commission brought forth many more concerns from our membership, community allies, advocates, and most importantly from victim survivors about the oversight of the Honolulu Police Department. We continue to have concerns about the complaint process, and how the department overall is held accountable.

The Hawaii Commission on The Status of Women, and the Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence has been working with HPD leadership in the past few months to ensure the cases that we hear about are followed up on properly. I have strong concerns about the oversight and handling of cases, but especially cases involving victims that did not know to make contact with HSCADV or the Commission on the Status of Women.

SB 389 is an opportunity for the State of Hawaii to make meaningful change and to establish credibility of our police system, and to restore confidence in advocates and victims of domestic violence.

Marci Lopes, Executive Director

LATE TESTIMONY

SB389

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for PSM on Feb 10, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jonathan Bussey	Remington College Honolulu C.J. Student Coalition	Support	No

HB No. 389

I would like to thank the Senators for allowing me to voice my opinion on this bill. My name is Jonathan Bussey and I am a Bachelor Student attending the Remington College Campus in Honolulu for Criminal Justice. I have twenty-four years as a government employee and a total of thirty-three years of military service in the United States Air Force. I am writing you on behalf of this bill to give my input.

I am in full support of this bill with reservation. The bill according to my understanding is not structured right to give the support that the people are in need of. The Commission is basically spread thin and there is not enough personnel to manage the islands issues that are put before them. I feel that there should be at least more seats added to even out the workload that is set before them. There should be at least three people to each commission to assist with the reports and investigations for each island and these people should have at least an equal share of women on the board.

On this committee, one person should be from the committee to show representation. This will build trust in the community and build ties insuring that there is some trust in the commissions goal to serve the community. This would be a strict selection process to insure that the make sure that the concerns of the community are a priority. This would help to insure that there will be transparency, accountability and accurate investigations are conducted in a timely manner with the overall goal is to provide the community with the safety that they deserve.

LATE TESTIMONY

From: PSMTestimony
To: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Subject: RE: Submitted testimony for SB389 on Feb 10, 2015 13:15PM

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 10:53 AM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: leuluniuotineru@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB389 on Feb 10, 2015 13:15PM

SB389

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for PSM on Feb 10, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
leuluniu otineru	Remington College Honolulu CJ Student	Support	No

Comments:

Senate Bill NO. 389

Good Morning ladies and Gentlemen, My name is Leuluniu Otineru, currently enrolled as a student of Remington College studying for my Bachelor's degree in the field of criminal justice. It is a great honor and privilege to stand before you today speaking on the behalf of the Senate Bill No. 389

Amends the composition of the county police commissions to require that there commissioner on each police commission have background, including women civil rights, and law enforcement.

I strongly support on this idea saying that on this bill that state should be able to know that the county police departments are being held accountable for the county police department's officer. Outside oversight and police department transparency are vital to ensuring ongoing community trust in the county police departments, particularly after high profile incidents such as the one in September 2014. Amending the composition of the county police commissions to include commissioners from a variety of backgrounds will therefore improve transparency, accountability, and efficiency in dealing with police misconduct in the state.

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

LATE TESTIMONY

From: PSMTTestimony
To: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Subject: RE: Submitted testimony for SB389 on Feb 10, 2015 13:15PM

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 10:17 AM
To: PSMTTestimony
Cc: aug43t@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB389 on Feb 10, 2015 13:15PM

SB389

Submitted on: 2/10/2015
Testimony for PSM on Feb 10, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Valenitia Augafa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Senate Bill Number 389

Honolulu Police Department, making Honolulu the safest place to live work and play. The Honolulu Police Department is committed to the prevention of domestic violence. With a well understood and respected motto, society has an idea with expectation of the Honolulu Police Department, and double standards of the law is not one of them. If the internal model of the police policy and procedure is problematic and has the ability to be dismissed by the individuals expected to not only follow the law but uphold it then how can we believe in the motto of the Honolulu Police Department?

The working of the Honolulu Police Department Policy and Procedure

The settlement of the missionary's brought new ideas, teaching and way of life for the Hawaiians. As time and controversy progressed a new way of learning and teaching was necessary, thus the introduction and use of newspapers arouse. It was found to be a great medium of expression. Personal beliefs and societal understanding engaged in the recreation of cultural changes and progression of understanding.

Around the mid-1800s missionary's created and maintained the institutions for learning and quickly began to realize the vitality of the newspaper industry. The missionaries were able to increase individual literacy and they were able to instill their Christian ways, beliefs and principles. The first newspaper that was printed in Hawai'i was a student newspaper, Ka Lama Hawai'i (The Hawaiian Luminary) created on February 14, 1834 at Lahainaluna, Maui. (Brislin, n.d.) The first Hawaiian language newspaper created by Native Hawaiian was around the 1850's known as Ka Hoku o ka Pakipika (Star of the Pacific). As a liberal voice for society, an English language newspaper was created as a weekly circulation known as the Pacific Commercial Advertiser, which still allowed a section for the Hawaiian people to continue their cultural voice through the Ka Hoku Loa O Hawai'i (The Morning Star of Hawai'i). This newspaper (without the Hawaiian section) is the only one that is still in existence, which is known today as the Honolulu Star-Bulletin. (Brislin, n.d.)

Divergence in Circulation. "We wish to plead our own cause. Too long have others spoken for us. Too long has the public been deceived by misrepresentation of things which concern us dearly. It shall ever be our daily duty to vindicate our brethren, when oppressed, and to lay the cause before the public... From the press and the pulpit we have suffered much by being incorrectly represented. Men... have not hesitated to represent us disadvantageously, without becoming personally acquainted with the true state of things."- Freedom's Journal, 1827. Thus began the revolution of oppression. Following the Freedom's Journal, other newspapers that began to appear in circulation, was The Folio, Hawai'i's first women's newspaper. (Brislin, n.d.) The newspaper had Hawai'i's first woman journalist, Elizabeth Swain Jarves, which imitated the mid-century feminist movement and arguments for women's rights. Professor Helen G. Hapin and Researcher and Appraiser of rare books David W. Forbes recount what was in an article of The Folio of 1855—A Plea for Women's Rights. Now, then, the hour has come when your name can be made immortal by becoming the defender, supporter, aye, creator of Women's Rights in Hawai'i! American women and men in the Hawaiian Kingdom were thus urged in 1855 to declare their allegiance to women's emancipation. The anonymous exhorter then warned men of the consequences if they failed to share their rights: "When I think of the wrongs heaped upon us, I really wonder that volcanic fires are restricted to the lonely heights of Mauna Loa, for surely it is not unreasonable to expect that Nature will avenge the indignities inflicted on Women." (Chapin & Forbes)

The award winning author, reporter and journalist Lauren Kessler said it best "Blacks, suffragists, populists, socialists, immigrants and others who professed aberrant beliefs were heard, not in the closed marketplace of the conventional press but in the marketplace of their own creation. It is these marketplaces — the thousands of publications created and sustained by those who do not represent the homogeneous middle — that collectively present the marketplace of ideas." (Alexandre, 2002-2011)

Provisional Government and the Ethic Reach. 1893 brought about an overthrown kingdom and the annexation of Hawai'i established by the United States. In retribution for this astonished event journalist, activist and libertarians continued to speak to the public in secret, with a renewed conviction of the ever changing events that began to unfold.

Japanese newspaper, Hawai'i Hochi began to circulate in 1912 as the voice for the Japanese community. Later turning into the bold voice of the island because of their predominant bilingual involvement with its views on politics, imperialism, cultural diversity and women's involvement. Among the Japanese newspapers were the Chinese newspaper; Hawai'i-Chinese News, Portuguese language newspaper; O Luso Hawaiiano and other ethnic papers that insinuated themselves into society with its ideology and opinioned opposition. There were the biggest ones because of the position the workers of these cultures were in and their attempt to conform as Americans.

Effects of Mass Media in Hawai'i. The media was formed to introduce new items that arouse and keep the public informed of day to day issues or events transpiring. The media was structured with persuasion and opposition, and has restructured to insinuation and underline placement of thoughts, ideas and opinions. This is a complete tone and attitude change though out our history. Since we rely heavily on our media and out sources to keep us informed, we have strengthened the power of our media today to include internet sources. Once again, as history as proven, our society will restructure our media to conform to our way of life and its opposition or position on particular view.

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

LATE TESTIMONY

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 5:06 PM

To: PSMTestimony

Cc: stevenkhamel@gmail.com

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB389 on Feb 10, 2015 13:15PM

SB389

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for PSM on Feb 10, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steven Hamel	Remington College Honolulu C.J. Student Coalition	Support	No

Good morning senators I am Steven Hamel, I am in my bachelors program for criminal justice at Remington College. I would like to discuss SB No 389 with you. Recently there has been a great deal of problematic situations surrounding both the Honolulu Police Department. However, I feel if we implement the changes of personnel on the commission that is proposed in the bill we will be able to eliminate some of the issues that have been brought to our attention. This bill is a vital part in correcting the internal problems with in our Police Department. Society has an idea with expectation of the Honolulu Police Department, and having double standards in the law is not one of them. The internal structure of the police policy and procedure is problematic and has the ability to be dismissed by the individuals expected to follow the law.

Currently we have a model that is in place for the Honolulu Police Department that is flawed. The way it is structured shows the Chief of Police as the final authority pertaining to any actions or misconduct that may arise. Such as, a patrol officer finds his/her self in a domestic violence dispute with their significant other, they could be placed on desk duty with limited powers, or on full active status pending the outcome of an investigation that would take place. We grant more power and privilege to individuals that serve the public in positions of power, such as the Police Officers. These individuals hold a lot more control over our rights, lively hood, and our freedom. They use individual discretion in every situation they are requested to intervene upon. Occasionally, a police officer make a mistake, in which their actions are dictated and scrutinized over. The reason for this is because we give an officer so much power and control that we have placed higher standards on their actions and decisions.

This bill addresses the need to change people that will be charge of the police commission to coming from different backgrounds, experiences, understandings, and education levels. This will ensure a diverse yet well rounded scope of thoughts and ideas for the State level requirements. Still, I am uncertain if the positions that are being created should be target specific or if we should expand the pool of individuals would strengthen the bill. Should the people that will hold these positions have connection with the law enforcement? Or should they be bias and impartial?

Overall, this bill is a good bill and it supports the needs of the people. It will help reduce the amount of mistrust that the community feels and hopefully place faith in its stead. This bill has the potential to reduce the amount of alarming and problematic situations that we have found surrounding our public servants. The requested changes for the police commission is a step in the right direction we should implement this bill with minor amendments. In conclusion I feel that this bill has strong points in them that will allow this bill to be a strong bill. Even if you leave the bill the way it is, it is still a great stepping stone in improving our criminal justice field. Thank you senators.

LATE TESTIMONY

SB389

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for PSM on Feb 10, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Deslynn Ching	Remington College Honolulu C.J. Student Coalition	Support	No

Hello my name is Deslynn Ching and I would like to thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony on SB 389. SB 389 is a bill that seeks to add three people to each county police commission while I stand in support of the bill, there is a flaw in the language in section (b) (1) (b) (2) of the bill in 9b0 subsection (1) the bill seeks to add The executive director of the state commission on the status of women, or a designated commissioner of the status of women. On Oahu this leave four candidate on each of the outer islands (Maui, Kauai, and Hawaii) only one person meets this requisite. An amendment to enlarge the pool to any women's advocate would allow a bigger pool of selection.

(b)(2) Seeks to add the executive director of the Hawaii civil rights commission, or a designated commissioner of the Hawaii civil rights commission. The problem is only two people meet this requisite and both reside on Oahu this means the outer islands cannot comply an amendment to add any civil rights advocate would broaden the pool.

Despite the short coming I support this bill with amendments

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 9:10 AM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: wusstig@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB389 on Feb 10, 2015 13:15PM*

LATE TESTIMONY

SB389

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for PSM on Feb 10, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kenny Wusstig	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.

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

LATE TESTIMONY

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 5:54 PM

To: PSMTestimony

Cc: will.4ever.moore@gmail.com

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB109 on Feb 10, 2015 13:15PM

SB109 389

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for PSM on Feb 10, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
william	Remington College Honolulu C.J. Student Coalition	Support	No

Hello my name is William Moore I am a Remington College Honolulu C.J Student Coalition. I am testifying for bill 389. Sb 389 is a bill that seeks to add 3 people to commission while I support this bill there is a problem n section (b)(1) and (b)(2) of the bill. Section b1 has only one person that fits the requirement on each of the other islands. (Hawaii, Maui and Kauai). The language in (b)(2) shows no one meets the requirements s in each of the other islands. All of the expertise in (b)(2) is on Oahu. This makes it impossible for the other islands to comply unless this bill is amended. I support additional thinking in the commission. I support this bill. The bill simply needs minor changes to enlarge the pool.