RODERICK K. BECKER

AUDREY HIDANO Deputy Comptroller

# STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

TESTIMONY OF
RODERICK K. BECKER, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEES ON
LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT
AND
LABOR & PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT
ON
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 2018
3:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 423

H.C.R. 149 / H.R. 132

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES TO DEDICATE ONE PRIVATE ROOM IN THE HAWAII STATE CAPITOL BUILDING FOR EMPLOYEES AND VISITORS TO BREASTFEED OR EXPRESS MILK.

Chair Kobayashi, Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Holt and members of the Committees, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on H.C.R. 149 and H.R. 132.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) supports the intent of the measures, and offers the following comments for the Committees' consideration.

The room that will be dedicated for the purposes as described in the measures will need to be identified and, depending on the existing status of the room, may require up to \$30,000 in modifications.

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



PANKAJ BHANOT DIRECTOR

CATHY BETTS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

# STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

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

March 20, 2018

TO: The Honorable Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Chair

House Committee on Legislative Management

The Honorable Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair

House Committee on Labor & Public Employment

FROM: Pankaj Bhanot, Director

SUBJECT: HCR 149/HR 132 – REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND

GENERAL SERVICES TO DEDICATE ONE PRIVATE ROOM IN THE HAWAII STATE

CAPITOL BUILDING FOR EMPLOYEES AND VISITORS TO BREASTFEED OR

**EXPRESS MILK.** 

Hearing: Wednesday, March 21, 2018, 3:00 p.m.

Conference Room 423, State Capitol

<u>DEPARTMENT'S POSITION</u>: The Department of Human Services (DHS) strongly supports HCR 149/HR 132, which requests the Department of Accounting and General Services to dedicate one private room in the Hawaii State Capitol building for employees and visitors to breastfeed or express milk.

Sixty percent (60%) of mothers do not breastfeed as long as they intend to or would like to for multiple reasons, including lack of supportive workplace policies and lack of parental leave. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) is supportive of implementing workplace accommodations and policies to ensure women returning to work may continue to have access to a safe and private location to express milk.

The creation of a private room for employees and visitors would eliminate a barrier for women who wish to continue breastfeeding. Extended duration of breastfeeding has positive health outcomes not only for infants, but for women as well.

DHS further supports the naming of this private room after Dr. Sylvia Pager, who passed away in February of 2015. Dr. Pager was a founding member of Breastfeeding Hawaii and the first International Board Certified lactation consultant physician in Hawaii. When Dr. Pager fell ill in February of 2015, she had been advocating for family friendly legislation at the Hawaii State Capitol. It is very fitting to honor her dedication to Hawaii's families by naming a private breastfeeding room after her.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support.

<u>HCR-149</u> Submitted on: 3/19/2018 4:10:57 PM

Testimony for LMG on 3/21/2018 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laurie Field	Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii	Support	No

<u>HCR-149</u> Submitted on: 3/19/2018 4:55:18 PM

Testimony for LMG on 3/21/2018 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan J. Wurtzburg	American Association of University Women, Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

AAUW-Hawaii supports.

Sincerely,

Susan J. Wurtzburg, Ph.D.

Policy Chair



March 21, 2018

To: Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Chair

Representative Mark Nakashima, Vice Chair and

Members of the Committee on Legislative Management

To: Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair

Representative Daniel Holt, Vice Chair and

Members of the Committee on Labor and Public Employment

From: Jeanne Y. Ohta, Co-Chair

RE: HCR 149/HR 132 Requesting the Department of Accounting and General Services to dedicate

one private room in the Hawaii State Capitol building for employees and visitors to breastfeed or

express milk

Hearing: Wednesday, March 21, 2018, 3:00 p.m., Room 423

POSITION: Support

The Hawai'i State Democratic Women's Caucus writes in strong support of HCR 149/HR 132 Requesting the Department of Accounting and General Services to dedicate one private room in the Hawaii State Capitol building for employees and visitors to breastfeed or express milk.

The Affordable Care Act amended the Fair Labor Standards Act to require that employers provide break time for women to breastfeed or express milk and requires that a location, other than a bathroom be provided for employees to express breast milk. Hawaii law has similar provisions.

Providing a private room is a common-sense accommodation that will reduce one of the barriers women face while returning to work after giving birth; and providing a room to women who wish to participate in public hearings or other events at the capitol encourages civic participation. The Hawaii State Capitol should be a model for the rest of the State.

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.

We ask that the committees pass these measures. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

<u>HCR-149</u> Submitted on: 3/19/2018 4:38:40 PM

Testimony for LMG on 3/21/2018 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lea Minton	Individual	Support	No

HCR-149 Submitted on: 3/19/2018 9:58:13 PM

Testimony for LMG on 3/21/2018 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cynthia J. Goto	Individual	Support	No



## **Fernhurst YWCA**

1566 Wilder Avenue Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822 808.941.2231

## Kokokahi YWCA

45-035 Kāne'ohe Bay Drive Kāne'ohe, Hawai'i 96744 808.247.2124



1040 Richards Street Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813 808.538.7061 ywcaoahu.org

To: Hawaii State House Committee Legislative Management Hawaii State House Committee on Labor & Public Employment

Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday, March 21, 2018, 3PM Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 423

# Position Statement Supporting HCR 149

Thank you Chair Kobayashi, Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Nakashima, and Vice Chair Holt and members of the Committees, for the opportunity to testify in **strong support of HCR 149.** 

Hawaii has made wonderful progress to encourage breastfeeding. The state Department of Health adopted practices to encourage exclusive breastfeeding in hospitals in 2010<sup>1</sup>, we have four hospitals certified as Baby-Friendly (a standard of care that believes breastfeeding is the optimal way to nourish infants<sup>2</sup>), and the state has seen our Maternity Practices in Infant Nutrition and Care score increased from 65 (out of 100) in 2009 to 80 in 2015<sup>3</sup>. We have set strong practices of encouraging breastfeeding in the early days and women are still likely to be breastfeeding at 8 weeks postpartum. However, breastfeeding rates dramatically decrease by 1 year postpartum. The World Health Organization recommends breastfeeding for the first 2 years and exclusively breastfeeding for the first 6 months. For moms who work, this can be very challenging. Studies show that an unsupportive work environment can contribute to the cessation of breastfeeding; citing lack of privacy to express breast milk as a primary reason<sup>4</sup>. Breastmilk production works on a supply and demand basis. If a woman is away from her baby and does not breastfeed or express breastmilk, her body will produce less milk. While this shows how amazing women's bodies are, it also shows the need women have to express milk while they are at work. Attached to this testimony are helpful handout from the World Health Organization on the ways lawmakers can support breastfeeding.

Breastfeeding is a deeply personal decision. Women should not be forced to end their breastfeeding journey because their work environment lacks adequate private space to breastfeed or express milk. Breastfeeding is a public health benefit. Women who work at the State Capitol should be afforded the opportunity to continue their breastfeeding relationship for as long as they wish and have a private space made available to them. Many women who would also call the legislature their work place have been forced into bathrooms or relying on the kindness of legislators to open their offices who would benefit from this space as well. For these reasons, we **strongly support HCR 149.** 

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Kathleen Algire
Director, Public Policy and Advocacy

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3020209/



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.cdc.gov/breastfeeding/pdf/2016breastfeedingreportcard.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.babyfriendlyusa.org/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://www.cdc.gov/breastfeeding/pdf/2016breastfeedingreportcard.pdf



Fernhurst YWCA

1566 Wilder Avenue Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822 808.941.2231

Kokokahi YWCA

45-035 Kāne'ohe Bay Drive 1040 Richards Street Kāne'ohe, Hawai'i 96744 808.247.2124

Laniākea YWCA

Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813 808.538.7061

ywcaoahu.org





Submitted on: 3/20/2018 3:42:14 PM

Testimony for LMG on 3/21/2018 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Kimura	Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies	Support	No

## Comments:

Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition of Hawaii strongly supports this bill, which would enable breastfeeding mothers to find a private space to pump milk while at the Capitol.

The health benefits of breast milk for both infants and mothers have long been established and it is imperative from a public health perspective to promote and sustain breastfeeding. Breastfeeding helps improve an infant's immune system, preventing illness such as ear infections, stomach viruses, asthma, obesity, types 1 and 2 diabetes, childhood leukemia, and some respiratory infections. Mothers also benefit from breastfeeding, as it lowers the risk of breast and ovarian cancer, type 2 diabetes, and reduces post-partum depression.

Mothers must pump milk consistently to maintain their supply and need a clean and safe space to express milk to avoid compromising their ability to breastfeed. Additionally, the importance of consistent, regular breaks to pump cannot be understated. Mothers who do not own, cannot afford to purchase, or whose insurance does not provide a breast pump will be unable to empty their breasts at the regular intervals required to sustain their milk supply. Additionally, new mothers require frequent breaks every couple of hours to pump, and a trial simply cannot be postponed to accommodate a mother's needs.

Currently, fewer than 20% of mothers make it to the AAP and WHO-recommended exclusive six months of breastfeeding. Anything that we can do as a state to support our mothers, in turn, supports the healthy development of our children. Offering a woman a place to pump enables her to continue providing the very best for her child during a very critical point of its health and emotional development.

Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition of Hawaii believes in providing all women with the information and resources they need to raise healthy and strong families. Accordingly, we support HCR149 and ask this Committee to pass it.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.





To: Committee on Legislative Management

Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Chair Representative Mark Nakashima, Vice Chair

Committee on Labor & Public Employment Representative Aaron Johanson, Chair Representative Daniel Holt Vice Chair

Place: House of Representatives Twenty-Ninth Legislature

Regular Session of 2018

Conference Room 423, State Capitol

Date: Wednesday, March 21, 2018 at 3:00pm

From: Breastfeeding Hawaii Board of Directors

Dear Representative Kobayashi, Representative Holt and committee members of Legislative Management and Labor & Public Employment:

Breastfeeding Hawaii strongly supports HCR149/HR132.

Breastfeeding Hawaii, a 501(c)(3) organization, is the state affiliate to the United States Breastfeeding Committee. Breastfeeding Hawaii's mission is to protect, promote and support breastfeeding through education of and collaboration with professionals involved in maternal child health, and serve as a community breastfeeding advocate in the State of Hawaii. Breastfeeding Hawaii has been actively involved in legislation to protect breastfeeding mothers nursing their children in public and exempting nursing mothers from jury duty. Some of the latest legislation has been to protect working mothers who are breastfeeding.

We feel to further support State Capitol employees and visitors who are breastfeeding, a dedicated room to breastfeed and/or express breastmilk is needed. We feel that the room should be able to accommodate more than one employee or visitor at the same time; have partitions for privacy; electrical outlets; comfortable chairs; side tables for each area; a drop down changing table; and a sink.

Breastfeeding Hawaii is honored that this room will be dedicated to one of our founders and the former medical advisor to the board, Sylvia Pager, MD, IBCLC, FABM, FAAP. Dr. Pager was a passionate and tireless breastfeeding advocate in the State of Hawaii, as well as a beloved pediatrician to many generations of breastfed children. She dedicated her time to ensure that all women had access to support services in order to achieve their breastfeeding goals. We believe that dedicating a lactation room in the State Capitol honors Dr. Pager's legacy and acknowledges



her time spent testifying and educating legislators about the importance of lactation issues in Hawaii.

A dedicated room within the State Capitol further complies with the breastfeeding in the workplace Act 245, providing a clean private place for mothers who are breastfeeding and/or expressing milk.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify. We look forward to working with you to implement this resolution.

Mahalo, Le'a Minton, MSN, APRN, CNM, IBCLC Sally Greene, MCN, IBCLC Jane Gallagher-Felix, MSN, APRN, WHNP, IBCLC Tambry Young, BA Pat Bilyk, MSN, MPH, RN, IBCLC



<u>HCR-149</u> Submitted on: 3/21/2018 4:22:34 AM

Testimony for LMG on 3/21/2018 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No



# **HCR-149**

Submitted on: 3/20/2018 10:04:55 PM

Testimony for LMG on 3/21/2018 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Malia Espinda	Individual	Support	Yes

# Comments:

## Chairs and Members:

A couple of years ago, a friend was waiting in the rotunda for her turn in a budget briefing. It was running late. She was a new mother. This friend had called me because she concerned that she could feel her milk. She asked me if I knew if the Capitol had a designated area to pump.

I had to tell her - I did not know. I did not know where to send this breast feeding mother so she could comfortably, peacefully, privately, and respectfully pump. This made me so sad for the Hawaii State Capitol and the rich history within this building of supporting Hawaii's mothers, babies, and families.

Take a moment and think about the number of moms with babies you have seen in hearings. Moms, who are mostly unfamiliar with the Capitol, perhaps intimated by the entire legislative process. I bet, until this reso, you may not have thought about where do those mothers go to breastfeed or pump? I sure didnt until my friend called me. The answer is — a bathroom? Their car? Or perhaps ask a random staff or legislator if they might open their offices to provide an accommodation.

This reso would rectify this by requesting DAGS to identify and designate a room in this Capitol, with all its Aloha, for staff and for visitors for mothers who need to breastfeed or express their milk.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this proposal.