

Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus Commission



Advocating for the Hawai'i LGBTQIA+ Community

Mailing Address: LGBTQ+ Commission, c/o The Department of Human Services, P.O. Box 339, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96809-0339

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February 14, 2025

Senate Committees on Judiciary, and Ways and Means Hawai'i State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, HI 96813

Hearing: Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at 10:16 AM

RE: Strong Support for Senate Bill 350 SD 1

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Chair Dela Cruz, and committee members,

I am writing in strong support of Senate Bill 350, SD 1 on behalf of the Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus. (LGBTQ+) Commission, which was established by the 2022 Hawai'i State Legislature with the following purpose:

"...to improve the State's interface with members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus community; identify the short- and long-range needs of its members; and ensure that there is an effective means of researching, planning, and advocating for the equity of this population in all aspects of state government."

The Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission submits this testimony in **strong support** of SB 350, which proposes an amendment to Article I of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i to protect an individual's right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception.

Access to contraception is a fundamental component of reproductive freedom, bodily autonomy, and personal privacy. Ensuring constitutional protection for this right affirms Hawai'i's commitment to upholding individual liberties and safeguarding access to essential healthcare.

For LGBTQIA+ individuals and families, contraceptive access is critical in numerous ways. Contraception enables family planning for same-sex couples, transgender individuals, and others who seek control over their reproductive choices. It also plays a vital role in gender-affirming care, as some contraceptives are used to manage hormone levels and other health needs for transgender and non-binary individuals.

At a time when reproductive rights are under increasing threat across the country, Hawai'i has an opportunity to set a strong precedent by ensuring that the right to contraception is explicitly enshrined in our state constitution. Doing so will help prevent

Proudly established pursuant to Hawai'i Revised Statutes Chapter 369, as enacted through Act 41, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2022

HI State LGBTQ+ Commission Testimony in Strong Support of SB 350 SD 1

future attempts to restrict this essential healthcare service and reaffirm our state's dedication to equality, privacy, and healthcare access for all.

We urge this committee to pass SB 350 and send a clear message that Hawai'i stands firmly in defense of reproductive freedom. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this vital legislation.

Mahalo nui loa for your time and consideration,

Kathleen O'Dell, Ph.D. (she/her) Chair Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission



To: Ways and Means and Judiciary Committees Hearing Date/Time: February 19, 2025/10:15 AM Place: Hawai`i State Capitol, Room 211 & Videoconference Re: Testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of S.B. 350, SD1

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Rhoads and Vice-Chairs Moriwaki and Gabbard and Members of the Ways and Means and Judiciary Committees:

Members of AAUW of Hawai`i thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of S.B. 350, SD 1, proposing an amendment to article I of the Hawai`i Constitution to protect a person's right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception.

The right to contraception is protected by *Griswold v. Connecticut*, 381 U.S. 479 (1965), and *Eisenstadt v. Baird*, 405 U.S. 438 (1972). In *Griswold*, the U.S. Supreme Court recognized that the constitutional right to privacy includes the right of married people to obtain contraceptives, and in *Eisenstadt*, the U.S. Supreme Court extended the constitutional protections in *Griswold* to unmarried persons.

However, *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, 597 U.S. 215 (2022), opens the door to challenges to the right to contraception.¹

Access to contraceptives and the right to engage in contraception is a medical necessity for many women. "The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (the College) supports access to comprehensive contraceptive care and contraceptive methods as an integral component of women's health care and is committed to encouraging and upholding policies and actions that ensure the availability of affordable and accessible contraceptive care and contraceptive methods."²

Hawai'i has long been a leader in advancing reproductive rights and advocating for access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination. The right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception is critical for the health and economic security of all people in Hawai'i. S.B. 350, SD 1 is prudent policy that will improve the overall health and economy of the State's communities.

1

2

https://nwlc.org/resource/the-right-to-contraception-deeply-rooted-in-our-laws-and-society-but-in-jeopardy-a nd-in-need-of-policymakers-attention/ (retrieved Feb. 1, 2025).

https://www.acog.org/clinical/clinical-guidance/committee-opinion/articles/2015/01/access-to-contraception (retrieved Feb. 1, 2025).

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) of Hawai`i is an all-volunteer, statewide chapter of a national organization and is made up of six branches: Hilo, Honolulu, Kaua'i, Kona, Maui, and Windward Oahu. UH Hilo, UH Manoa, UH Maui College, and Windward Community College are also AAUW partners. AAUW's mission is to advance gender equity for equal opportunities in education, at workplace and for economic security, and in leadership.

Sincerely, Sandy Ma, Esq. Public Policy Committee, AAUW of Hawai`i publicpolicy-hi@aauw.net



TESTIMONY FROM THE STONEWALL CAUCUS OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAI'I

JOINT HEARING OF SENATE COMMITTEES ON WAYS AND MEANS & JUDICIARY

FEBRUARY 19, 2025

Testimony in Strong Support of Senate Bill 350 SD1 PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE HAWAII CONSTITUTION TO PROTECT THE RIGHT TO CONTRACEPTION.

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and esteemed Members of the Committee:

My name is Abby Simmons, Chair of the Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, and I am testifying on behalf of our Caucus in strong support of SB350 SD1, which proposes an amendment to the Hawai'i Constitution to explicitly protect the right to contraception.

Why This Amendment is Necessary

Access to contraception is a fundamental component of personal autonomy, reproductive freedom, and public health. By enshrining this right in our state constitution, Hawai'i ensures that individuals can make private, informed decisions about their health without government interference.

Protecting the Right to Contraception is Essential for:

1. Public Health & Family Planning

• Contraception allows individuals to plan pregnancies, reducing unintended pregnancies and improving maternal and child health outcomes.

• It lowers healthcare costs by preventing complications related to unplanned pregnancies.

2. Reproductive Autonomy & Privacy

• Every person should have the right to make personal healthcare decisions without political or ideological interference.

• SB350 SD1 aligns with Hawaii's long-standing commitment to privacy and reproductive rights.

- 3. Preventing Future Legal Challenges
 - While contraception is currently legal, recent national trends suggest efforts to restrict reproductive rights.
 - Explicitly protecting this right in our state constitution prevents future legal uncertainties and ensures continued access.

Hawai'i should join other States in PROTECTING OUR RIGHTS

Fifteen other states, including California, Oregon, and Washington, already have legal protections for contraception. As a leader in reproductive rights, Hawai'i should proactively safeguard this essential healthcare access.

In summary:

SB350 SD1 is a common-sense measure that upholds individual freedom, promotes public health, and protects personal privacy. I urge this committee to pass this bill and give the people of Hawai'i the opportunity to vote on protecting their reproductive rights in the state constitution.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify. I respectfully urge you to support SB350 SD1.

Respectfully,

Abby Simmons (she/her) Chair & SCC Representative Stonewall Caucus Democratic Party of Hawai'i https://linktr.ee/stonewalldph

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS P.O. Box 37158, Honolulu, HI 96837-0158

Phone/E-Mail: (808) 927-1214 / kat.caphi@gmail.com

Today's Inmate; Tomorrow's Neighbor



COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sharon Moriwaki, Vice Chair Wednesday, February 19, 2025 Room 211 & VIDEOCONFERENCE 10:16 AM

STRONG SUPPORT FOR SB 350 SD1 – CON AM TO PROTECT THE RIGHT TO CONTRACEPTIVES

Aloha Chairs Rhoads and Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Moriwaki and Members of the Committees!

My name is Kat Brady and I am the Coordinator of Community Alliance on Prisons, a community initiative promoting smart justice policies in Hawai`i for more than two decades. This testimony is respectfully offered on behalf of the 3,703 Hawai`i individuals living behind bars¹ and under the "care and custody" of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation as of February 10, 2025 . We are always mindful that 937 – 25.3% - of Hawai`i's imprisoned male population are serving their sentences abroad -- thousands of miles away from their loved ones, their homes and, for the disproportionate number of incarcerated Kanaka Maoli, far, far from their ancestral lands.

SB 350 SD1¹ **DCR Weekly Population Report, February 10, 2025** https://dcr.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Pop-Reports-Weekly-2025-02-10.pdf

Community Alliance on Prisons appreciates this opportunity to testify in **strong support of SB 350 SD1**, constitutional amendment a person's right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception. States are the laboratories of democracy and there is no greater time than now to practice our democracy in Hawai`i. There can be no greater invasion of one's privacy than for the government to dictate what one can and cannot do with their own body.

Mahalo nui loa to the JDC-WAM Committees for scheduling this bill and for allowing us to testify in full support of this important measure.

SB-350-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/14/2025 7:26:52 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Golojuch, Jr.	Testifying for Pride at	Support	Written Testimony
(he/him)	Work – Hawaiʻi		Only

Comments:

Aloha Senators,

Pride at Work – Hawai'i is an official chapter of <u>Pride at Work</u> which is a national nonprofit organization that represents LGBTQIA+ union members and their allies. We are an officially recognized constituency group of the AFL-CIO that organizes mutual support between the organized Labor Movement and the LGBTQIA+ Community to further social and economic justice.

Pride at Work – Hawai'i fully supports SB 350 SD 1.

We ask that you support this needed piece of legislation.

Mahalo,

Michael Golojuch, Jr. (he/him) President Pride at Work – Hawaiʻi Cade Watanabe, Financial Secretary-Treasurer

Gemma G. Weinstein, President

NITEHERE!

Eric W. Gill, Senior Vice-President February 17, 2025

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sharon Moriwaki, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Judiciary

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of SB350

Chairs Dela Cruz and Rhoads, Vice Chairs Moriwaki and Gabbard, and members of the Committees:

UNITE HERE Local 5 represents over 10,000 working people in the hotel, food service and healthcare industries across Hawaii. We have always fought to improve the economic lives of our members, their families and their community.

We are in support of SB350. Reproductive rights are healthcare rights. A person's healthcare choice is for them and their doctor to decide. Women and men should have the freedom to plan their lives. A government that denies it citizens the right to determine the quality of their personal lives is taking away freedom from its citizens. We are a state that values personal freedoms. A constitutional ballot question to protect reproductive rights will reflect the will of its citizens.

As a labor union with a long history of worker advocacy we want to emphasize the economic freedom that reproductive choice provides to people; reproductive rights are closely correlated to economic prosperity, and economic prosperity is economic freedom. Secretary of the Treasury Janet Yellen said, *"eliminating the right of women to make decisions about when and whether to have children would have very damaging effects on the economy and would set women back decades."*

Those who threaten the right to access contraception in addition to eliminating the right to abortion are not only threatening some women's lives, but attempting to reduce women to the status of second-class citizens in the eyes of the law. This must not be allowed to happen. We applaud this Senate for taking steps to protect human rights by the introduction of this bill, and we urge these Committees to pass this, and moreover to pass SB 297. It is a question of both human rights and of economic freedoms.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/17/2025 8:12:15 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Doris Segal Matsunaga	Testifying for Save Medicaid Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Save Medicaid Hawaii strongly supports SB 350



Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks! is a nonpartisan 501c4 nonprofit committed to advocating for children and their families. Our core issues are safety, health, and education.

To:	Senator Donavan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair Senate Committee on Ways and Means
	Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair Senate Committee on Judiciary
From:	Chevelle Davis, MPH - Director of Early Childhood & Health Policy Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!
Subject:	Measure S.B. No. 350 S.D. 1 – Proposing an Amendment to the Hawai'i Constitution to Protect the Right to Contraception
Hearing:	Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at 10:16 AM, Conference Room 211

POSITION: STRONG SUPPORT

Aloha e Chairs Dela Cruz and Rhoads, Vice Chairs Moriwaki and Gabbard, and members of the committees:

Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks! **STRONGLY SUPPORT S.B. No. 350 S.D. 1**, proposing a constitutional amendment to Article I of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i, which would explicitly protect the right to obtain and use contraception. As an organization dedicated to ensuring the health, safety, and well-being of Hawai'i's children and families, we firmly believe that reproductive freedom—including the right to access contraception—is essential to the foundation of strong, thriving communities.

Hawai'i has long been a leader in protecting reproductive rights. In 1970, Hawai'i became the first state in the nation to legalize abortion, recognizing early on that individuals have the right to make private healthcare decisions without government interference. We must continue to lead by ensuring that access to contraception is safeguarded in our state constitution, reinforcing our commitment to reproductive autonomy and justice.

This amendment aligns with the tenets of reproductive justice, which affirm that every person has the right to:

- 1. Have children,
- 2. Not have children, and
- 3. Parent the children they already have in safe and sustainable communities.

Access to contraception is fundamental to this framework. It allows individuals to make informed decisions about their reproductive health, ensuring that they can plan their families in a way that best supports their well-being and economic stability. Without constitutional protection, these rights remain vulnerable to political shifts that could endanger the health and autonomy of individuals across the state.

It is inappropriate and unjust for the government to interfere with **any** individual's ability to access medical care and medically accurate reproductive health information, including contraception. Restrictions on contraception disproportionately harm those who are already strategically marginalized—particularly Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, and low-income communities—who have historically faced systemic barriers to healthcare. Protecting the right to contraception ensures that every person, regardless of their circumstances, can exercise **their right** to reproductive autonomy without political interference.

Moreover, the economic realities of living in Hawai'i make access to contraception even more critical. Families across Hawai'i are struggling with the high costs of housing, child care, food, and other necessities, making it even more important that individuals have the ability to plan and space their pregnancies. Unintended pregnancies can create additional financial strain on families already facing economic hardship, exacerbating cycles of poverty and limiting opportunities for both parents and children. Ensuring access to contraception is not just a matter of personal freedom; it is an economic necessity for many families striving to build stable, healthy lives.

Contraceptive access is also a critical economic and social justice issue. Research shows that when individuals can control if and when they have children, they are more likely to pursue educational and career opportunities, leading to greater economic stability for families and improved outcomes for children. Denying access to contraception does not stop people from needing it; it only creates harmful barriers that increase rates of unintended pregnancy and negatively impact the health of women, children, and families.

For these reasons, we urge the committee to support this constitutional amendment. The people of Hawai'i deserve the explicit protection of their right to make private medical decisions without government interference. By enshrining this right in our state constitution, we take a vital step toward ensuring reproductive justice, advancing gender equity, and safeguarding the future wellbeing of Hawai'i's families.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** on this critical measure.



Submitted Online: Tuesday, February 20, 2025

TO: Senate Committee on Ways & Means Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sharon Moriwaki, Vice Chair

> Senate Committee on Judiciary Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair



- **FROM**: Eva Andrade, President
- **RE**: Opposition to SB350 SD 1 Proposing an Amendment to the Hawaii Constitution to Protect the Right to Contraception.

Hawai'i Family Forum is a non-profit, pro-family education organization committed to preserving and strengthening families in Hawai'i. We have deep concern regarding SB350 due to its use of broad terminology and because we feel that amending the constitution is unnecessary as these rights are already protected under existing law.

Overly Broad and Ambiguous Language

SB350 SD1 employs vague terminology that invites extreme interpretations. By using the term "person" instead of "woman" or "adult," the bill could undermine parental notification laws, potentially allowing minors under 14 to access contraceptives without parental knowledge or consent. This raises concerns about future legal ambiguity regarding the definition of "person" and its application in reproductive health policies. We also hold concerns that religious organizations and/or people with deeply held religious convictions could be forced to provide services that are contrary to their religious tenets.

Hawai'i Law Already Protects Contraceptive Access

SB350 SD1 falsely suggests that Hawai'i's constitution must "further the right to privacy," creating unnecessary confusion for voters. This phrasing implies that such a right is incomplete or at risk—when in reality, it is already well established. Women in Hawai'i have unrestricted access to contraception and pregnancy-related medical care. Even Planned Parenthood Action confirms: "Abortion is legal in this state. Very few to no restrictions exist, and abortion is accessible."

Conclusion

SB350 SD1 is unnecessary, as it introduces vague policy language while preemptively shutting down future legislative efforts aimed at protecting life and family. This bill does not expand rights—it misleads the public and attempts to enshrine redundant policies into law."

ⁱ Planned Parenthood Action (n.d.). *Is Abortion Still Accessible in My State Now That Roe v. Wade Was Overturned?* Retrieved February 3, 2025, from <u>https://www.plannedparenthoodaction.org/abortion-access-tool/HI</u>



To: COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS and COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at 10:16 AM Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Room 211 Re: Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of SB 350 SD1

Dear Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair, Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair, Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair and Members of the Committees:

Members of Indivisible Hawai'i thanks you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 350 SD1 which proposes an amendment to article I of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i to protect a person's right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception.

This amendment is needed now to protect Hawai'i's proud traditional of tolerance for religious differences and privacy in health care from the extremists now in charge of the federal government. Among other threats, the Republican majority in Congress may attempt to enforce old Comstock laws that ban the mailing of contraceptives, which will leave women and families in Hawai'i with few options. Therefore, we respectfully request that Hawaii's legislature act with all due speed to protect the rights and health of all women and families in Hawai'i nei. Please pass SB 350 SD1.

Sincerely, Indivisible Hawai'i

We're a grassroots movement of thousands of local Indivisible groups with a mission to elect progressive leaders, rebuild our democracy, and defeat the Trump agenda. In Hawai'i, we have ten groups across four islands, representing over a thousand prodemocracy citizens.



То:	The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair Senate Committee on Judiciary
	The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair The Honorable Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair Senate Committee on Ways and Means
From:	Paula Arcena, External Affairs Vice President Mike Nguyen, Public Policy Manager Sarielyn Curtis, External Affairs Specialist
Hearing:	Wednesday, February 19, 2025, 10:16AM, Conference Room 211
RE:	SB350 HD1 Proposing an Amendment to the Hawaii Constitution to Protect the Right to Contraception.

LATE

AlohaCare appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in **support** of **SB350 HD1**. This measure proposes an amendment to article I of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i to protect a person's right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception.

Founded in 1994 by Hawai'i's community health centers, AlohaCare is a communityrooted, non-profit health plan serving over 70,000 Medicaid and dual-eligible health plan members on all islands. Approximately 37 percent of our members are keiki. We are Hawai'i's only health plan exclusively dedicated to serving Medicaid and Medicaid-Medicare dually-eligible beneficiaries. Our mission is to serve individuals and communities in the true spirit of aloha by ensuring and advocating for access to quality, whole-person care for all.

AlohaCare supports the intent of SB350 HD1, but our **preference is for SB297** which protects the right to an individual's reproductive freedom, including the right to abortion and the right to contraception. We fully support this measure because all people in Hawai'i deserve timely, safe, and local access to healthcare. Contraceptives prevent unwanted pregnancy, which is an essential option for a myriad of medical and personal reasons. Contraceptives are also used to address polycystic ovary syndrome, endometriosis, and acne, among many other medical conditions.¹ Access to contraception allows people to make informed decisions regarding their bodies and overall health.

This measure would help to protect access to care for the residents of Hawai'i. Mahalo for this opportunity to testify in **support** of **SB350 HD1**.

¹ <u>Birth Control Pills: Medical Uses – Center for Young Women's Health</u>





Committee: Hearing Date/Time: Place: Re: Judiciary and Ways & Means Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at 10:16am Conference Room 211 & via Videoconference <u>Testimony of the ACLU of Hawai'i in support of S.B. 350,</u> <u>SD1 Proposing an Amendment to the Hawaii</u> <u>Constitution to Protect the Right to Contraception</u>

Dear Chair Elefante, Vice Chair Wakai and Committee Members:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i ("ACLU of Hawai'i") writes in **support of SB 350, SD1**. This bill proposes an amendment to Article I of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i to protect a person's right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception.

Contraception access fights are part of a larger movement towards true reproductive justice, which means that everyone has the right to make their own decisions about their lives, families, and futures.

We respectfully request that you pass **SB350**, **SD1** and amend the Hawai'i Constitution to strongly affirm the right to access and engage in contraception.

Sincerely,

Carrie Ann Shirota Policy Director ACLU of Hawai'i <u>cshirota@acluhawaii.org</u>

The mission of the ACLU of Hawai'i is to protect the fundamental freedoms enshrined in the U.S. and State Constitutions. The ACLU of Hawai'i fulfills this through legislative, litigation, and public education programs statewide. The ACLU of Hawai'i is a non-partisan and private non-profit organization that provides its services at no cost to the public and does not accept government funds. The ACLU of Hawai'i has been serving Hawai'i for over 50 years.

> American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i P.O. Box 3410 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96801 T: 808.522.5900 F: 808.522.5909 E: office@acluhawaii.org www.acluhawaii.org

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 9:11:49 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Steven Jay Gladman	Testifying for Steve's Repair Service LLC	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Our company oppses this bill. It's topo vague and not needed. We already have laws in place that protect this issue.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/14/2025 8:08:23 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Olderr	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Contraception is a medical necessity, a personal choice, and a private matter altogether. To think we have to go so far for such a bare necessity is an affront to our God and our God-given rights. The rights of women are human rights, and human rights should be recognized and protected by our country. Since our federal leaders are filled with cowards, bullies, and heretics, Hawaii must step in and be the safe harbor for those seeking shelter from such gross injustice. Please support this bill.

SB-350-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/14/2025 8:13:50 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lynn Murakami Akatsuka	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SB 350, SD 1 proposing an amendment to article 1 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i to protect a person's right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of SB 350, SD1.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u>

Submitted on: 2/14/2025 9:46:16 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nancy D Moser	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In STRONG SUPPORT of SB 350 SD1. Aloha Chair and members of the Committee, Please vote YES on this measure. Protecting the privacy and rights of every individual is a crucial function of our governement. Nancy Moser in Waikoloa on Hawai'i Island

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u>

Submitted on: 2/14/2025 9:59:28 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ruth Love	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have concern with SB350 line 6: "each person's health care provider to provide contraceptives".

I feel it should say: each person's health care provider to provide PRESCRIPTIONS FOR contraceptives as needed."

The health care providers may or may not provide a prescription depending on patient health history. Also some contraceptive pills are moving toward over-the-counter items people may purchase on their own.

Thank you,

Mrs Ruth Love

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2025 8:48:44 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Teresa Parsons	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a Women's Health Nurse Practitioner for over 35 years, I strongly support this bill and urge all committee members to support it.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2025 9:47:42 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brian Piotrowski	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2025 9:51:16 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gaye Chan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawai'i.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2025 10:00:02 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Travis Warren Nishii	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2025 10:08:39 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karen Chun	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The way things are going, we're going to need to guarantee the right to contraception.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2025 10:13:51 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karissa Rowe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u>

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 10:32:27 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
melissa wheeler	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is unquestionable that immigrants should receive any and ALL reproductive tools, medications and treatments neccesary to protect themselves and others while in custody! Period, no ifs and or buts about it! SUPPORT this bill!!

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u>

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 10:59:59 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jay Henderson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I live near Ala Moana andvI vote. Today I write in support of SB350 because access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii. Mahalo.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2025 11:02:25 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Donna Oba	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this measure to protect the right to contraception.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2025 11:05:11 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Deborah G. Nehmad	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

How unfortuante that we need an effort like this, but we do. Please support this bill

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2025 11:24:59 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michelle Ma	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u>

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 11:53:51 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Diann Karin Lynn	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is a basic human right, critical for the health of all people in Hawaii (and everywhere). Please support and pass this essential bill as soon as humanly possible, before it is too late. We are counting on you.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2025 12:14:29 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elizabeth Nelson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this bill for women to have the right to contraception. This is so important. Without contraception, the chance of pregnancy rises and the possible need for an abortion rises, also. So I believe that good, available contraception is a woman of child-bearing age's right.

Thank you so much.

Elizabeth Nelson, RN

Kaneohe

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2025 12:30:15 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Younghee Overly	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for hearing SB350 SD1. Please pass this measure to protect our rights to contraception against potential national ban.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2025 1:09:50 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Suellen Barton	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Fair & unrestricted access to health & reproductive healthcare is essential for the health of Hawaii's citizens

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2025 1:26:24 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rebecca Redwine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2025 2:19:50 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
C. Clayton	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii!

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u>

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 2:24:00 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wendy Dame	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Everyone should have the right to make their own decisions regarding contraception. It is an important component of family planning, as well as part of maintaining one's health. The government has no business making that decision for an individual.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2025 2:32:21 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Donna P. Van Osdol	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill. To have a constitutional amedment so women can purchase contraceptives seems so unnecessary.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2025 2:50:27 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
constance	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

If women have equal rights UNDER THE LAW, body decisions should be their own.

Whether aborition pills or procedures, the right of a person to decide for her own body is elementary: my body, my choice

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u>

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 3:02:29 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Debra Waterman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawaii needs to continue to provide access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination. It is critical for the healthcare of the people in Hawaii, and aligns with the caring Aloha spirit we treasure here.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2025 3:24:46 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brenda DuFresne	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB350

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2025 3:29:50 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
James E Raymond	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2025 3:57:41 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Audrey Higbee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To: Health and Human Services Committee

Hearing Date/Time: February 5, 2025/1:00 PM

Place: Hawai`i State Capitol, Room 225 & Videoconference

Re: Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of S.B. 350

Dear Chair San Buenaventura and Vice-Chair Aquino and Members of the Health and Human Services Committee:

Members of AAUW of Hawai`i thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of S.B. 350, proposing an amendment to article I of the Hawai`i Constitution to protect a person's right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception.

The right to contraception is protected by Griswold v. Connecticut, 381 U.S. 479 (1965), and Eisenstadt v. Baird, 405 U.S. 438 (1972). In Griswold, the U.S. Supreme Court recognized that the constitutional right to privacy includes the right of married people to obtain contraceptives, and in Eisenstadt, the U.S. Supreme Court extended the constitutional protections in Griswold to unmarried persons.

However, Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization, 597 U.S. 215 (2022), opens the door to challenges to the right to contraception.1

Access to contraceptives and the right to engage in contraception is a medical necessity for many women. "The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (the College) supports access to comprehensive contraceptive care and contraceptive methods as an integral component of women's health care and is committed to encouraging and upholding policies and actions that ensure the availability of affordable and accessible contraceptive care and contraceptive methods."2

Hawai`i has long been a leader in advancing reproductive rights and advocating for access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination. The right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception is critical for the health and economic

security of all people in Hawai`i. S.B. 350 is prudent policy that will improve the overall health and economy of the State's communities.

1

https://nwlc.org/resource/the-right-to-contraception-deeply-rooted-in-our-laws-and-society-but-in-jeopardy-a nd-in-need-of-policymakers-attention/ (retrieved Feb. 1, 2025).

2

https://www.acog.org/clinical/clinical-guidance/committee-opinion/articles/2015/01/access-to-contraception (retrieved Feb. 1, 2025).

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey Higbee

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2025 4:47:36 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
G L Hutchinson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Absolutely need to protect womens health in the State of Hawaii, now and forever.

mahalo

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2025 5:27:50 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tim Huycke	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB350.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2025 5:44:19 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eileen M Gawrys DNP	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a recently retired Women's Health Nurse Practitioner, I strongly support 350 SB PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE HAWAII CONSTITUTION TO PROTECT THE RIGHT TO CONTRACEPTION.

Reproductive Justice benefits ALL members of society. This must be protected in Hawai'i, especially in light of the current POTUS and GOP will to strip human beings of basic rights and the right to privacy.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2025 6:49:33 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mike Golojuch, Sr.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SB350. Please pass this bill.

Mike Golojuch, Sr.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2025 7:25:48 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Virginia Hinshaw	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Everyone should have the right to contraception!

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2025 8:20:58 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Caroline Kunitake	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB350 SD1.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/15/2025 10:16:43 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Lum	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To: Chair San Buenaventura, Vice-Chair Aquino, and Members of the Health and Human Services Committee

I am Jennifer Lum and I strongly support Senate Bill 350. This bill would change the Hawai`i Constitution to protect everyone's right to get and use birth control.

The U.S. Supreme Court cases Griswold v. Connecticut and Eisenstadt v. Baird already protect this right. Griswold said married couples have a right to birth control, and Eisenstadt extended that right to single people.

However, the recent Supreme Court decision in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization makes the right to birth control less secure. This means it could be challenged.

Birth control is essential for many women's health. The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists agrees that everyone should have access to affordable birth control as part of their healthcare.

Hawaii has always been a leader in protecting reproductive rights and making sure people can get affordable sexual and reproductive healthcare. Protecting the right to birth control is important for the health and financial well-being of everyone in Hawaii. Passing S.B. 350 is a smart move that will benefit our communities.

Mahalo,

Jennifer Lum, 'Ewa Beach

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/16/2025 5:14:13 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alice Morris	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/16/2025 8:53:03 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
DeWaine Tollefsrud	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u>

Submitted on: 2/16/2025 9:35:33 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nancy J. Budd	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill. Access to comprehensive contraceptive care and contraceptive methods is an integral component of women's health care and availability of affordable and accessible contraceptive care and contraceptive methods should be enshrined in and protected by our constitution.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/16/2025 10:29:57 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Erika Cabell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this measure to protect the right to contraception

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/16/2025 10:49:11 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrea Nandoskar	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly support.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/16/2025 12:44:39 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jane Aquino	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/16/2025 2:09:03 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sheryl Summers	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii. I support this bill 100%!

Hearing Date: Wednesday, February 19, 2025, 1:00 PM, Rm. 211

To: Committee on Ways and Means Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair

> Committee on Judiciary Senator, Karl Rhoads Chair Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Re: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 350, SD1 PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE HAWAII CONSTITUTION TO PROTECT THE RIGHT TO CONTRACEPTION.

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Rhoads, Vice Chairs Morikaki and Gabbard, and the Members of the Committees,

My name is Jean Evans and I am **strong support of SB 350, SD1** which proposes an amendment to article I of the Hawaii Constitution to protect a person's right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception.

Hawaii must take a proactive stance to prevent further erosion of individual rights coming from the current and future federal administrations. Passing SB 350, SD1 will give Hawaii voters a chance to vote to assure that our State remains a leader in protecting reproductive rights by establishing an individual's right to get and use contraception as they see fit.

Please pass this important measure and mahalo for your consideration

Sincerely, Jean Evans

Jean Evans

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/16/2025 3:48:02 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leah Morse	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/16/2025 4:16:51 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Reed Bertolette	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/16/2025 5:21:36 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dina Shek	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB350 to protect reproductive health in Hawaii.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/16/2025 5:34:12 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brett Kulbis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Dela Cruz, Chair Rhoads and Committee Members,

My name is Brett Kulbis, I'm a 26yr Navy Veteran and Retired Civil Servant. I live in Ewa Beach.

I STRONGLY OPPOSE SB-350.

SB-350 threatens the very fabric of our society and the values we hold dear. This bill is a slippery slope towards moral decay and state government overreach.

This bill proposes an amendment to the state constitution to guarantee an individual's right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception. At first glance, this may seem like a personal choice, but make no mistake, it is a Trojan horse for state government intrusion into our private lives. Our State Constitution was designed, similar to the U.S. Constitution, to protect our freedoms not erode them!

Hawai'i already has laws and policies in place that ensure access to contraceptives. Adding a constitutional amendment will not significantly enhance these protections but could complicate future legislative efforts to address related issues.

Contraception is a controversial topic, and many Americans, especially those of us in the conservative movement, believe in the sanctity of life and the importance of family values. We cherish the idea that every keiki is a gift, and the decision to bring life into this world should not be taken lightly. SB-350 undermines these values by promoting a culture that treats pregnancy as a disease to be prevented rather than a miracle to be celebrated.

Furthermore, this bill disregards the religious beliefs of many Hawai'i residents. The right to practice one's faith freely is a cornerstone of our great state and nation. SB-350 could force those with strong religious convictions against contraception to act against their conscience. This is a clear violation of the First Amendment and sets a dangerous precedent.

Instead of relying on government guarantees, we should be promoting personal responsibility and education. It is crucial to empower individuals to make informed choices and understand the potential consequences of their actions. We should encourage open dialogue and provide resources for those seeking guidance. Respectfully, I STRONGLY encourage you to vote NO on SB-350.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/16/2025 6:07:49 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nikole McGreevey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To: Health and Human Services Committee

Hearing Date/Time: February 5, 2025/1:00 PM

Place: Hawai`i State Capitol, Room 225 & Videoconference

Re: Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of S.B. 350

Dear Chair San Buenaventura and Vice-Chair Aquino and Members of the Health and Human Services Committee:

Members of AAUW of Hawai`i thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of S.B. 350, proposing an amendment to article I of the Hawai`i Constitution to protect a person's right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception.

The right to contraception is protected by Griswold v. Connecticut, 381 U.S. 479 (1965), and Eisenstadt v. Baird, 405 U.S. 438 (1972). In Griswold, the U.S. Supreme Court recognized that the constitutional right to privacy includes the right of married people to obtain contraceptives, and in Eisenstadt, the U.S. Supreme Court extended the constitutional protections in Griswold to unmarried persons.

However, Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization, 597 U.S. 215 (2022), opens the door to challenges to the right to contraception.1

Access to contraceptives and the right to engage in contraception is a medical necessity for many women. "The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (the College) supports access to comprehensive contraceptive care and contraceptive methods as an integral component of women's health care and is committed to encouraging and upholding policies and actions that ensure the availability of affordable and accessible contraceptive care and contraceptive methods."2

Hawai`i has long been a leader in advancing reproductive rights and advocating for access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination. The

right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception is critical for the health and economic security of all people in Hawai'i. S.B. 350 is prudent policy that will improve the overall health and economy of the State's communities.

1

https://nwlc.org/resource/the-right-to-contraception-deeply-rooted-in-our-laws-and-society-but-in-jeopardy-a nd-in-need-of-policymakers-attention/ (retrieved Feb. 1, 2025).

2

https://www.acog.org/clinical/clinical-guidance/committee-opinion/articles/2015/01/access-to-contraception (retrieved Feb. 1, 2025).

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) of Hawai`i is an all-volunteer, statewide chapter of a national organization and is made up of six branches: Hilo, Honolulu, Kaua'i, Kona, Maui, and Windward Oahu. UH Hilo, UH Manoa, UH Maui College, and Windward Community College are also AAUW partners. AAUW's mission is to advance gender equity for equal opportunities in education, at workplace and for economic security, and in leadership.

Sincerely,

Dr. Nikki McGreevey

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u>

Submitted on: 2/16/2025 10:07:48 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Janet Teare	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Everyone has the Freedom to decide what they do with their body. It would be an Invasion of privacy and stripping away our Freedoms, for any government to control what we can or cannot do with our own body.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u>

Submitted on: 2/16/2025 11:21:07 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kathy Hammes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii. Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB350.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/17/2025 3:00:14 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terri Gately	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/17/2025 6:18:03 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Manuela Levitt	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii.

Hawai`i has long been a leader in advancing reproductive rights and advocating for access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination. The right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception is critical for the health and economic security of all people in Hawai`i. S.B. 350 is prudent policy that will improve the overall health and economy of the State's communities.

Keep the aloha in the Aloha State, for **every woman** and every family that depends on her wellbeing.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/17/2025 6:30:01 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Beth Anderson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Thank you for introducing this bill which protects the rights of women to make their own decisions regarding the use of contraceptives and their ability to access contraceptives. I strongly support Bill 350 SB. We are already seeing the devastating results from Roe vs Wade being overturned across many states. States with abortion bans are seeing a significant in the infant mortality rate. When contraceptive use and use of abortion pills are denied those devastating results are compounded.

The use of contraceptives is a choice that should only be left up to a woman, or mahu, and one that should only be made by that person with the help of their physician, if necessary. This isn't a decision that should be made by the government. The government already made an extremely bad choice and increased the threat to the lives infants and pregnant women by overturning Roe vs Wade.

Let's keep those decisions in the hands of patients and doctors when it comes to decisions about people's bodies and health. The government has no expertise in this area and should not be interfering in life death decisions like this.

Mahalo nui for considering my views on SB 350.

Testimony in strong support of SB350

February 17, 2025

Senator Donovan DelaCruz, Chair Senate Committee on Ways and Means Senator Sharon Moriwaki, Vice Chair Senate Committee on Ways and Means Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair Senate Committee on Judiciary Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: SB350 Immigrants Right to Contraception

Dear Senators DelaCruz, Moriwaki, Rhoads, Gabbard and Members of the Committees:

My name is Gail Breakey, member of Indivisible. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB350, which proposes an amendment to Article I of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i to protect a person's right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception.

The right to contraception is protected by Griswald vs Conneticut. In "Griswald", the Supreme Court recognized that the consitutioal right to privacy includes the right of married aeople to obtain conraceptives and in "Eisenstadt", the Court concluded that consitutional protectioin in Griswald extended to unmarried persons. However, Dobbs vs Jackson Women's Health Organization has opened the door to challenges to the right to contraception.

Access to contraception and the right to engage in contraception is a medical necessity for many women. Hawaii has long been a leader in advancing reproductive rights and advocating for access to affordable reproductive health care without discrimination. Affordable, comprehensive reproductive health care is prudent policy that will improve overall health and economy of Hawaii communities.

Thank you for you consideration of this bill and for the opportunity to testify in support of **SB350**.

Sincerely,

Haie Meakey

Gail Breakey, RN, MPH

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u>

Submitted on: 2/17/2025 9:35:23 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Paige Gruenwald	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii. This is a right that should be added to the Hawaii constitution. As a woman and resident of Maui, I fully support SB350. Thank you.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/17/2025 10:42:11 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Devlin gruenwald	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/17/2025 11:00:07 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kelly Ciurej	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u>

Submitted on: 2/17/2025 11:26:04 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Beth D King	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Woman have a human right to decide when to become a mother. Families have the rights to decide how many children they wish to raise (family size). The world is watching. Act PONO. TO WOMAN!

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/17/2025 12:02:52 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Kuzmier	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I support this bill SB350 SD1, creating an initiative to place this question as to whether to modify the constitution on the next election's ballot to create an amendment regarding this issue of contraception.

Let the people decide! Mahalo.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on 2/17/202

Submitted on: 2/17/2025 1:06:56 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Patti Yasuhara	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please vote No SB350 SD1

Hawaii law already ensures access to contraception & there is no documented crisis requiring a constitional amendment.

Mahalo, Patti Yasuhara, Honolulu, HI 96825 - District 18

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/17/2025 1:44:48 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Daniel T Tomita	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose the proposed amendment to the Hawai'i State Constitution (SB 350 SD1) because this measure is unnecessary and overreaching. Hawai'i law already ensures access to contraception, and there is no documented crisis requiring a constitutional amendment. Furthermore, this vague proposal does not specify age restrictions, leaving open the possibility that minors as young as 11 or 12 could be included under the broad term "individuals." Constitutional changes should not be made lightly—especially when current laws already protect access to contraception. I urge you to represent me in opposing this amendment. There is no need to further waste tax payer dollars on this amendment. Please vote NO! Mahalo! Daniel Tomita, 95 Paulele Street, Hilo, HI 96720

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/17/2025 2:00:21 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sara Harris	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am an OBGYN practicing in Waipahu and I strongly support SB350.

Reproductive rights are under increasing threat across the country. We have the opportunity to protect access to contraception.

Please support SB350 and allow Hawai'i voters the opportunity to protect this fundamental right.

Thank you!

Sara C Harris, MD

AYMAN EL-SWAIFY PUBLIC TESTIMONY SB350 SD1 - CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT CONTRACEPTION

Good Afternoon, Senate Members. My name is Ayman El-Swaify and I am OPPOSED to SB350 SD1.

This Senate Bill proposes a new Hawaii Constitutional Amendment to "to protect a person's ability to seek and obtain contraceptives and to engage in contraception."

A constitutional amendment is an extreme measure and I feel it is inappropriate for the purpose as the issue at hand is already addressed by State Law.

The language in the proposed amendment is vague and open to very broad interpretation, for example, there are no age restrictions. Thus, "access by all persons" can easily be interpreted to include minors without parental consent.

The definition of contraceptive in the bill includes things "specifically intended to prevent pregnancy or for other health needs..." Other health needs" could be interpreted to include almost any type of alleged need, including irreversible gender mutilation surgery.

I therefore appeal to you – please OPPOSE SB350. It is unnecessary and introduces risk to the health of keiki and others in Hawaii.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/17/2025 2:24:53 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Barbara Bumatay Picayo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this measure because Women should always have the right to contraception! It should be protected for women in our state.

SB-350-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2025 2:32:17 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carolina Jesus	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. Why are we seeking to enshrine the right to contraception? Hawai'i law already ensures access to contraception, and there is no documented crisis requiring a constitutional amendment.

This vague proposal **does not specify age restrictions**, leaving open the possibility that minors as young as 11 or 12 could be included under the broad term "individuals." This measure is unnecessary and overreaching. **Constitutional changes should not be made lightly**—**especially when current laws already protect access to contraception.**

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/17/2025 2:43:21 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elena Vorm	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u>

Submitted on: 2/17/2025 3:19:04 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michelle Bonk	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a retired Registered Nurse I strongly believe that access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/17/2025 3:27:13 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karen A Valasek	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

"Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii."

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/17/2025 3:27:15 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sarah Josef	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/17/2025 4:16:57 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Duffy	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose. A Constitutional amendment for this is not needed.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/17/2025 4:28:02 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carla Allison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SB 350 SD1 and the constitutional amendment of a person's right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception.

Thank you,

Carla Allison Honolulu

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u>

Submitted on: 2/17/2025 4:35:54 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Belinda pate	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a citizen of Hawaii and a law obliding tax payer and constituent, I support contraception for all women in Hawaiii. It is a right that should need no scientific defense from laypersons. We should not have to become scientists or scholars to protect our basic rights.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/17/2025 4:36:28 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Janet Morse	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support I support this measure to protect the right to contraception.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/17/2025 5:49:49 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rita Kama-Kimura	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Rita Kama-Kimura and I stand in strong opposition to this Senate Bill 350 SD1, to change the "Hawaii State Constitution!"

Firstly, our Constitution is an important critical document and should not be toyed with or tampered with for issues like this.

Is this really an issue? The right to contraception, I believe is already protected by law! I don't remember a controversy or challenged to women rights, unless you are referring to girls under the age of 18 yrs. who are excluded. That should have been stated/addressed in this bill!

We have a lot of critical issues in this state, challenges our citizens are facing that should be addressed. Again, NO! this bill should be stopped

Respectfully, Rita Kama-Kimura

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/17/2025 6:02:23 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nikki-Ann Yee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this measure to protect the right to contraception.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/17/2025 6:18:24 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tiffini Connelly	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/17/2025 7:25:43 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joan Johnson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this measure to protect the right to contraception. Access to contraception should not be interfered with or limited by government.

Thank you for supporting SB350, our reproductive health and our right to choose.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/17/2025 7:32:15 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tim Harvey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u>

Submitted on: 2/17/2025 7:37:58 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carolyn Eaton	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Affirming the right of its citizens to acquire and use contraceptives seems most prudent at the level of state government in these times. I'm proud that Hawai'i is considering constitutional protection for individuals in this most intimate and consequential of decisions.

I appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony in whole-hearted support.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/17/2025 8:00:39 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jada Rufo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/17/2025 9:01:06 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mandy Chang	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

First let me thank you for serving our beautiful State. Second, I'd like to share with you some of the reasons I oppose and would ask you to oppose **SB 350 SD1**:

This measure is unnecessary and overreaching. Hawai'i law already ensures access to contraception, and there is no documented crisis requiring a constitutional amendment.

This vague proposal does not specify age restrictions, leaving open the possibility that minors as young as 11 or 12 could be included under the broad term "individuals." Constitutional changes should not be made lightly—especially when current laws already protect access to contraception.

The real issue is medical provider availability, not constitutional rights.

Constitutional amendments should not be used for issues that are already addressed by state law.

Thank you,

Amanda Chang

Kapolei, Hawaii

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/17/2025 9:24:49 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alfred Hagen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

This bill is a disingenuous attempt to codify an already existing law of the so-called "right" to contraception through an amendment to our state constitution.

This bill is flagrantly unconstituational since it supresses the First Ammendment guarantee of freedom of speech and religion.

It will be struck down by the United States Supreme Court.

For that reasom, I urge a NO vote for its passage.

I oppose and vote NO on this bill.

Mahalo,

Alfred Hagen

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u>

Submitted on: 2/17/2025 9:32:26 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maya Maxym	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a woman, parent, and physician, I strongly support amending Article I of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i to protect a person's right to obtain contraceptives and make choices about their own contraception decisions. This is particularly important given the threats to bodily autonomy presented by Project 2025. Mahalo.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/17/2025 9:48:33 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Koerner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u>

Submitted on: 2/17/2025 9:56:56 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amita Schmidt	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a mental healthcare professional working with young women. My women clients of all ages are becoming more and more depressed and anxious that they might not have access to contraception. If we do not allow this choice to be protected we will see more depression, anxiety and suicide in women.

February 19, 2025

- To: Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sharon Moriwaki, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means
- To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair and Member of the Committee on Judiciary
- RE: SB 350 SD1 Proposing an Amendment to the Hawai'i Constitution to Protect the Right to Contraception

POSITION: Strong Support

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony in strong support of SB 350 SD1 which proposes and amendment to Article 1 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i to protect a person's right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception.

Reproductive health care, including contraceptive care is supported by the Hawai'i Section of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecologists. Access to contraceptives is important because it is not only used to prevent pregnancy, but also used for medical conditions such as endometriosis, polycystic ovary syndrome and other menstrual disorders.

It is important that women and their physicians have the option to use contraceptives if and when needed without government interference in their decisions.

Please pass SB 350 SD1 to ensure that women have the right to choose to use contraceptives.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 12:20:00 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Roxanne Erolin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in strong support of SB350. This will ensure that any individual is able to access contraceptives if they choose to use it. Approximately 40% of pregnancies are unintended in the US. This number has gone down mainly due to policies promoting equitable access to contraceptives. By safeguarding the right to access contraceptives, it reaffirms the fundamental right to bodily autonomy allowing people to decide when and whether to become pregnant. Not only do contraceptives help in preventing pregnancy, it is also used to treat conditions such as polycystic ovarian syndrome, endometriosis, and other types of menstrual abnormalities such as fibroids. Thus, access to treatment for these conditions can improve the health and quality of life for those individuals.

In the 2022 decision of *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* decision that overturned *Roe v. Wade*, Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas called into question the Supreme Court decision for *Griswold v. Connecticut*, which was the first case to establish the right to contraceptive use for married couples and later single individuals. Thus, the right to contraceptive use may be threatened if not protected in our state's constitution.

Hawai'i has been a leader in reproductive rights and has the opportunity to continue to lead with this amendment. Please support SB350 and allow Hawai'i voters a chance to protect their right to access health care and reproductive autonomy.

Thank you!

Roxanne

Honolulu, Hawai'i

References:

CDC. Unintended Pregnancy. May 14, 2024. <u>https://www.cdc.gov/reproductive-health/hcp/unintended-pregnancy/index.html</u> (retrieved Feb 17, 2025)

Edelman, Adam. Thomas wants the Supreme Court to overturn landmark rulings that legalized contraception, same-sex marriage. NBC News. June 24, 2022. <u>https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/supreme-court/thomas-wants-supreme-court-overturn-landmark-rulings-legalized-contrac-rcna35228</u>. (retrieved Feb. 17, 2025)

Guttmacher Institute. Unintended Pregnancy in the United States. January 2019. <u>https://www.guttmacher.org/fact-sheet/unintended-pregnancy-united-states</u> (retrieved Feb 17, 2025)

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 7:41:48 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrew Crossland	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I urge this committee to **VOTE NO** on SB350 SD1, a bill that misleadingly frames an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Hawaii. This amendment is not merely about contraception; it surreptitiously extends to include the right to abortion pills under the guise of "contraceptives." Here are compelling reasons to reject this bill:

1. Misrepresentation of Scope:

• The bill misleadingly categorizes abortion pills as "contraceptives." Contraception prevents pregnancy, whereas abortion pills terminate an existing pregnancy. This conflation is not only scientifically inaccurate but also ethically dubious.

2. Undermining Existing Legal Frameworks:

 Hawaii already has robust privacy protections under Section 6 of Article I. Adding this amendment would bypass the nuanced debate that should accompany changes in abortion policy, potentially leading to an unchecked expansion of abortion rights without proper legislative scrutiny.

3. Risk of Judicial Overreach:

• By embedding what is essentially an abortion rights provision within the Constitution under the pretext of contraception, we risk judicial interpretations that could expand these rights exponentially, beyond the control or intent of the legislature.

4. Potential for Future Misinterpretation:

• The broad language used could lead to future legal challenges where "contraception" might be legally redefined to encompass all forms of pregnancy termination, including late-term abortions, without public or legislative consent.

5. Legislative Precedence and Public Will:

• The states cited in the bill's findings have different cultural and political contexts. Introducing such a significant change in Hawaii via this method bypasses the necessary public discourse and legislative process that should accompany changes to our abortion laws.

6. Misallocation of Legislative Focus:

• Hawaii faces critical challenges like housing affordability, educational disparities, and environmental issues. Focusing on this amendment distracts from addressing these urgent matters, potentially at the expense of public welfare.

7. Public Referendum Concerns:

- The ballot question proposed does not transparently address the inclusion of abortion pills, potentially misleading voters about the full implications of this amendment. This lack of clarity could lead to an uninformed public decision.
- 8. Economic and Administrative Burden:
 - The process of amending the Constitution for such a controversial issue will lead to significant costs, not just financially but also in terms of social division and legal disputes. These resources could be more wisely invested elsewhere.

In conclusion, **I strongly oppose this bill**. It deceitfully extends the right to abortion under the label of contraception, potentially leading to judicial overreach, misallocation of legislative priorities, and public deception. I urge you to **VOTE NO** on SB350 SD1 to protect the integrity of our legislative process and ensure that such significant issues are debated openly and decided upon with full public understanding.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 6:08:49 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Katharine Conway	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 7:41:48 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrew Crossland	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I urge this committee to **VOTE NO** on SB350 SD1, a bill that misleadingly frames an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Hawaii. This amendment is not merely about contraception; it surreptitiously extends to include the right to abortion pills under the guise of "contraceptives." Here are compelling reasons to reject this bill:

1. Misrepresentation of Scope:

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2. Undermining Existing Legal Frameworks:

 Hawaii already has robust privacy protections under Section 6 of Article I. Adding this amendment would bypass the nuanced debate that should accompany changes in abortion policy, potentially leading to an unchecked expansion of abortion rights without proper legislative scrutiny.

3. Risk of Judicial Overreach:

• By embedding what is essentially an abortion rights provision within the Constitution under the pretext of contraception, we risk judicial interpretations that could expand these rights exponentially, beyond the control or intent of the legislature.

4. Potential for Future Misinterpretation:

• The broad language used could lead to future legal challenges where "contraception" might be legally redefined to encompass all forms of pregnancy termination, including late-term abortions, without public or legislative consent.

5. Legislative Precedence and Public Will:

• The states cited in the bill's findings have different cultural and political contexts. Introducing such a significant change in Hawaii via this method bypasses the necessary public discourse and legislative process that should accompany changes to our abortion laws.

6. Misallocation of Legislative Focus:

• Hawaii faces critical challenges like housing affordability, educational disparities, and environmental issues. Focusing on this amendment distracts from addressing these urgent matters, potentially at the expense of public welfare.

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- The ballot question proposed does not transparently address the inclusion of abortion pills, potentially misleading voters about the full implications of this amendment. This lack of clarity could lead to an uninformed public decision.
- 8. Economic and Administrative Burden:
 - The process of amending the Constitution for such a controversial issue will lead to significant costs, not just financially but also in terms of social division and legal disputes. These resources could be more wisely invested elsewhere.

In conclusion, **I strongly oppose this bill**. It deceitfully extends the right to abortion under the label of contraception, potentially leading to judicial overreach, misallocation of legislative priorities, and public deception. I urge you to **VOTE NO** on SB350 SD1 to protect the integrity of our legislative process and ensure that such significant issues are debated openly and decided upon with full public understanding.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u>

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 7:53:00 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David E Shormann	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Abortion is murder, and murder is a sinful and unrighteous act. Our motto is that the life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness. So don't propose bills like this that promote unrighteousness. Pono bills only!

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 8:07:26 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shani Hough	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB350, which amends Hawaii Constitution to give the right to obatian abortion pills: i.e., taxpayer-funded abortions under guise of contraception!

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 8:16:09 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeanine Acopan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mothers who want to murder their children, can pay out of their own pockets or better yet, the ones pushing this bill can pay out of theirs!

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 8:20:22 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Noela von Wiegandt	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I oppose SB350. I do NOT want my tax dollars to fund this. Please vote NO. Thank you.

Noela von Wiegandt

SB-350-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 8:42:04 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Candace	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE BILL SB 350 SD1

YOU ALL ARE SETTING UP ARE CHILDREN FOR CHAOS AS ADULTS. NO MORALS, NO SELF ESTEEM, PETSONAL RESPECT FOR THEMSELVES AND OTHERS.

PLEASE STOP THIS INSANITY!!!! IF YOUR OK WITH THIS THAN YOU DO IT DONT MANDATE IT ON OUR CHILDREN.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 8:55:58 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bruce Baumgartner	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly **oppose SB 350 SD1.** I believe this legislation will is unnecessary and will be overreaching. Hawai'i law already protects access to contraception, so there is no need for a constitutional amendment.

This current proposal doesn't have any age restrictions, so that minors as young as 11 or 12 could be included. That's horrifying! Their bodies, minds and hearts are too young to be given the freedom - no - the encouragement to seek becoming sexually active where they would need contraceptives. This is going way too far!

Constitutional amendments should not be made lightly—especially if current laws already protect access to contraception for thos emature enough to use it effectively.

Again - I urge you to oppose this uneceesaary legislation! No on SB 350 SD1.

SB-350-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 8:58:06 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Daryl Smith	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Existing law already provides access to contraception for individuals 14 and older—there is no crisis.

This amendment does not specify age restrictions, raising concerns about potential implications for minors.

The real issue is medical provider availability, not constitutional rights.

Constitutional amendments should not be used for issues that are already addressed by state law.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u>

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 8:58:22 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terri Yoshinaga	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Existing law already provides access to contraception for individuals 14 and older—there is no crisis.

This amendment does not specify age restrictions, raising concerns about potential implications for minors.

The real issue is medical provider availability, not constitutional rights.

Constitutional amendments should not be used for issues that are already addressed by state law.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 9:00:19 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cindy R Ajimine	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

OPPOSE - I strongly OPPOSE this unnecessary bill.

A law already exists to provide contraceptive access.

Vague & non-specific wording that does not capture the entire process! No addressing of medical care availability, age restrictions, reporting, and other details to safeguard all the people.

This is NOT the purpose of constitutional amendments.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 9:06:24 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacob Kanakamaikai	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose HB 350

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 9:07:55 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aurie Sorensen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this change to the Hawaii State Constitution. This change is not age specific and would leave room for minors (anyone under 18) to make decisions that they are not mature enough nor do they understand the consequences that come with these dicisions.

There is a bill allowing for adults to have this right already to choose birth control. There is not a need to make this a part of our state constitution.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 9:20:51 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leane Kaneko	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly OPPOSE!

Existing law already provides access to contraception for individuals 14 and older—there is no crisis.

This amendment does not specify age restrictions, raising concerns about potential implications for minors.

The real issue is medical provider availability, not constitutional rights.

Constitutional amendments should not be used for issues that are already addressed by state law.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 9:22:07 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alan Kaneko	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly OPPOSE!

Existing law already provides access to contraception for individuals 14 and older—there is no crisis.

This amendment does not specify age restrictions, raising concerns about potential implications for minors.

The real issue is medical provider availability, not constitutional rights.

Constitutional amendments should not be used for issues that are already addressed by state law.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u>

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 9:37:41 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alberta Lono	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB350 SD1 It takes away parental rights especially if the age is going to change below 14 years old. Every parent has the right to bring up their children their way. No law should dictate that.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 9:39:36 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ryan Willis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Oppose

Senate Committee on Ways and Means and Senate Committee on Judiciary Decision Making Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at 10:16 am Conference Room 211 & Videoconference State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street

RE: SB 350, SD1 - PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE HAWAII CONSTITUTION TO PROTECT THE RIGHT TO CONTRACEPTION

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committees,

I submit this testimony today IN SUPPORT of SB 350, SD1. Access to contraceptives and the right to engage in contraception is a medical necessity for many women. I have friends and family members who use contraceptives for the purposes of treating underlying reproductive health issues, such as endometriosis. I also have friends and family members with medical conditions which make an unintended pregnancy a potentially disabling or life-threatening situation, especially if they are denied access to medical care as determined in collaboration with their medical providers. The use of contraceptives and obtaining contraceptives and voluntarily engaging in contraception are matters of bodily autonomy and reproductive health care that should be decided upon between individuals and their health care provider absent government interference.

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the entity best situated to give guidance on the matter, supports access to comprehensive contraceptive care and contraceptive methods as an integral component of women's health care and is committed to encouraging and upholding policies and actions that ensure the availability of affordable and accessible contraceptive care and contraceptive methods.

I SUPPORT SB 350, SD1, and the enshrinement of the right to access and obtain contraceptives and contraception, the right to voluntarily engage in contraception, and the right to access to information, referrals, and services related to contraception within the Hawai`i state constitution.

I request that the Committees pass SB 350, SD1.

Mahalo for your consideration of this important matter,

Christine L. Andrews, J.D. Wailuku, Maui

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 9:44:21 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Renee Rabb	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of SB 350 by Senator Rhodes. Protecting the right to contraception is paramount in letting families make their own decisions concerning the size of their family. Who knows what the federal government may do next?

Please protect Hawai'i families by passing this constitutional amendment.

Mahalo,

Renee Rabb

Keaau, HI 96749

Big Island

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 9:44:55 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sharon Martin	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

TO: Senate Ways & Means Committee, Senate Judiciary Committee

Position: OPPOSE SB 350 D1

Dear Senators,

I am opposed to this proposed amendment to codify the right to contraception in the Hawaii State Constitution.

Constitutional rights is not the real issue. Hawaii state law already provides access to contraception. Constitutional amendments should not be used for issues that are already addressed by state law.

This amendment does not specify age restrictions. As a parent, this raises serious concerns about potential implications to minors. Parents have fundamental rights in the direct care, custody, and control of their children. This proposed amendment seeks to infringe on parental rights of their minor children.

I strongly urge you to OPPOSE SB 350 D1.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mrs. Sharon Martin

Hawaii resident and parent

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 9:46:16 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Glenna Matauto	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

oppose

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 9:52:46 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Erin Yokomori	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I respectfully OPPOSE SB 350 SD1.

Our state constitution already provides access to contraception to individuals 14 and older. A revision to the state constitution is unnecessary and unwarranted.

Furthermore, changes to the state constitution should be presented to all of the citizens of the state. WE should be provided the right to vote upon these issues - and not have them be determined by a small committee alone.

Mahalo for the opportunity to share my concerns.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 9:53:51 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nicole Betron	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose!

There is Already an existing law that provides access to contraception for individuals 14 and older—so there is no crisis. It is concerning that this amendment does not specify age restrictions, leaving it open to potential implications for minors. The real issue is medical provider availability, NOT constitutional rights. Constitutional amendments should NOT be used for issues that are already addressed by state law.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 9:58:00 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christopher Gouveia	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB350. I do not believe that abortion is a right because it is murder.

2/18/2025

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I oppose SB 350 SD1.

Existing law already provides access to contraception for individuals 14 years old and older -there is no documented crisis requiring a constitutional amendment. This measure is unnecessary and overreaching.

This amendment does not specify age restrictions, raising concerns about potential implications for minors.

The real issue is medical provider availability; not constitutional rights.

Constitutional amendments should not be used for issues that are already addressed by state law.

With respect,

Agnes Tauyan

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 9:58:15 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Corinne Solomon	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB350. Vote NO on this bill.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 10:00:35 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaiulani Bowers	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u>

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 10:03:35 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lana Quindica	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is unnecessary and a waste of taxpayer money since citizens of Hawaii ALREADY have a right to contraception. Also it is not clear enough and can open the door for minor children to obtain medical care without parental knowledge or consent.

SB-350-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 10:08:14 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leslie J.	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee members, please defer this measure. While the intent may be positive, there are already sufficient laws available to provide the intended result. We do not need to amend our Constitution. Changes to the Constitution should only be made in exceptional circumstances, and that is not the case here. In addition, due to the wording of this measure, there are concerns regarding unintended consequences for minors abd other vulnerable populations. Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 10:11:20 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rick Abordo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Opposed, thank you.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u>

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 10:14:12 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eve Furchgott	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to & availability of contraceptives should NEVER be controlled by government or other institutions. Individual women & men must ALWAYS have that freedom of choice. Please encode this into our State constitution and rulings.



<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 10:16:10 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Boyd Ready	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this.



<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 10:20:50 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Vivian Bunda	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose



<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 10:21:10 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sean k Wela Jr	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

oppose



<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 10:36:45 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lynn Bush	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please oppose and vote "NO" on SB 350 SD1. The amendment does not specify age restrictions, which raises concerns about potential implications for minors younger than 14. Constitutional amendments should not be used for issues that have already been addressed by State law. Existing law already provides access to contraception for individuals 14 and older.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 10:43:16 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
chelsea pang	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Access to affordable and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care without discrimination is critical for the health of all people in Hawaii

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 10:45:16 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mark Blair	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

aloha, praying for you as you shoulder the enormous responsibility of serving our Islands and peoples. truly, the life of the land will be perpetuated in righteousness. as a pastor of a church I can tell you our people are very concerned about this bill. we see it as unnecessary and a potential opportunity for young people to be endangered. the wording seems intentionally vague and fraught with potential wrong applications. we oppose this bill. mahalo!



<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 10:46:02 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mary Smart	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I most strongly oppose SB350 SD1.

To make contraceptives a Constitutional right is nonsense. It violates US Constitutional rights that protect our religious freedom, conscience protections and parental rights. Access to contraception is already readily available and accessible to our residents.

Currently these products are being given to minors without their parents or guardians knowledge. Contraceptives may prevent pregnancy in most cases (but not all), but they don't do a good job at preventing sexually transmitted infections (STIs). STIs are rampant and harming our youth. This bill has no restrictions on the right of minors to obtain listed contraception products. Minors do not have mature experiences that enable them to make wise decisions about products and procedures that could lead to life long damage to their future fertility and even endanger their lives.

There have been too many negative health outcomes for women who have used IUDs. Parents and guardians may miss the signs of a medical emergency if they are unaware that their child has been provided one of these devices.

Making contraceptives available to minors will also expose them to advances from sexual predators. We are constantly reading about teachers who enter into inappropriate sexual relationships with their naïve and/or threatened students. In recent months more and more pedophiles have been exposed. These perverts could easily let their child abuse go undetected if they secretly enabled a child to obtain contraceptives. Perhaps the abuse would only be detected after the child is found to have sexually transmitted infections or other sexual medical emergency.

Many years ago, the terms contraception and pregnancy were revised to mean an event only after the baby attaches to the womb – but that is a false definition created to legitimize contraception in the understanding of the public. Many individuals have researched the topic and are not fooled by the revised definition of when pregnancy begins. The bill denies that some contraceptives are abortifacients. That is wrong. Once the male sperm penetrates the female egg, the life of the child begins. Even before the baby (zygote is another term for baby) attaches to the mother's womb, a pre-born child exists. It is a baby after fertilization and many of the devices and chemicals/pills prevent the baby's ability to attach to the uterine wall. One only has to read published literature to find that fact which needs to be acknowledged in the bill or the inaccurate claim that some of these products don't cause an abortion must be removed. It is unacceptable that false data has been included in the body of this bill.

Medical personnel, pharmacists, counselors, and others must be exempted from prescribing and referring to the use of these products based on their conscience and religious beliefs. A state constitutional amendment cannot take away federal constitutional protections.

This bill is especially harmful for our youth. It is unnecessary for others.

Do not pass SB350 SD1.



<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 10:48:53 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
TERI SAVAIINAEA	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Chair Rhoads and Committee Members,

I oppose SB350 SD1.

Kind regards,

Teri Kia Savaiinaea

District 45, Wai'anae resident



<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 10:49:50 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lolita Keni	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill...I am against abortion period. I refuse to support this bill, which will allow our taxpayer's money going to provide abortion pills. We need to better educate our teens, children, even adults...as to provide preventative, not after the fact.



<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 10:52:49 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lucy Salas	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE SB 350 SD1. PLEASE DO NOT PASS THIS BILL. TOO MANY KILLINGS IN OUR CONTROL AND IS NOT RIGHTEOUS. PLEASE STOP AND KILL THE BILL! MAHALO.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 10:59:18 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lesha Mathes	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. This is not appropriate reason to amend our constitution. This is a waste of time and taxpayers money. There are much more important things you should be working on.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 11:17:04 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lynn Ziadie	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB350 SD1



<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 11:24:36 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Charlissia Abihai	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

OPPOSE



<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 11:39:28 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alika Valdez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.



<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 11:41:31 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bart Burford	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

NOT SUPPORTING THIS -



<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 12:44:34 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robin D. Ganitano	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB350 which taxpayer-funded abortions are under the guise of contraception.



<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 1:00:38 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bronson Teixeira	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha I strongly oppose this bill, mahalo.



<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 1:02:05 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Matt Smith	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My tax dollars should not be used to kill babies. Killing babies is not healthcare.

Spend your time on more important issues like lowering the cost of living so people can afford to have families and not kill them as unwanted.



<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 1:05:55 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Justin Kaawa	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose citing government overreach



<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 1:07:01 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dawn O'Brien	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committe of Hawai'i's Representative Leaders,

TYSVM for taking the time to read this & do your due diligence; sincerely appreciate you all.

I am in strong opposition of SB350 using our tax payers' dollars to fund abortions under the guise of contraception and obtain abortion pills. "My body my choice" is the chant of most of these proponents, therefore make it "My bad choice my big bad bill." Let them pay for those choices (over 90% of people obtaining free contraceptives are NOT due to assault).

Further, why are we funding these issues when our state has more dire concerns facing our people--incoluding affordable housing, highest cost of living in the nation, high taxes, water issues, etc. All energies, efforts & expenses that can be spared should be going to these greater needs faced by 100% of the populace, not the expenses of a small percentage of our population. Let us focus on the livelihood of our Aloha State before we have none left to give thanks to the impossible taxes and livelihood of her residents. Let us focus on greater issues and stop sliding these illegal bills in for a small special interest segment of the populace of Hawai'I.

In summary, I fully & strongly oppose SB 350 & ask that you represent the majority of the taxpaying residents of Hawaii--whether they voted for you or not--and also oppose SB350 also.

Mahalo & Mālama Pono,

Dawn O'Brien

Lifelong resident of Hawai'I

President, HOPE HI, Inc.



<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 1:25:04 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Debbie Wyand	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill. it amends the Hawaii Constitution to give the right to obtain abortion pills. This is basically taxpayer funded abortive under the guise of contraception. VOTE NO!



<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 2:00:28 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shawn Michelle Wallen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, This bill is unnecessary and overreaching. **Hawai'i law already ensures access to contraception**, and there is no documented crisis requiring a constitutional amendment.

This bill is vague and **does not specify age restrictions**, leaving open the possibility that minors as young as 11 or 12 could be included under the broad term "individuals." **Constitutional changes should not be made lightly—especially when current laws already protect access to contraception.**

Mahalo for your kind attention and taking your responsibility of representing the people of Hawaii to heart.

Aloha,

Shawn Michelle Wallen



<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 3:15:27 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Erin Chinen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Thank you for serving our Hawaii. I really appreciate your time and sacrifice. I respectfully ask that you vote no on SB350 SD1. Here are a few reasons I believe this bill is unneccessary:

Existing law already provides access to contraception for individuals 14 and older—there is no crisis.

This amendment does not specify age restrictions, raising concerns about potential implications for minors.

The real issue is medical provider availability, not constitutional rights.

Mahalo for your time.

Blessings,

Erin Chinen (mom, teacher, Kaneohe resident)



<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 3:28:56 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mary Healy	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. I do not consent to amending the state constitution for the purposes proposed in SB350. Contraceptives are by definition used to **prevent pregnancy**. I do not agree with having **any** medication linked to the state constitution, especially a medication that can be taken to harm vulnerable unborn. I fear that women will become complacent using this drug after risky sexual activity. As with all medication unintended side effects can occur. The medication is also not 100% effective at ending pregnancy.



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Janae	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony in Support of SB350 SD1: *PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE HAWAII CONSTITUTION TO PROTECT THE RIGHT TO CONTRACEPTION*

Aloha Chairs Rhoads & Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Gabbard & Moriwaki & Committee Members,

My name is Janae and I am a graduate student pursuing my Master's degree in Social Work at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. The views I am expressing in this testimony are my own and don't necessarily reflect the school. **I am testifying in support of SB350 SD1.**

Health care is an essential public good that everyone should have the right to access. There are various reasons as to why I support individual's having access to contraception, which include:

- Individual's constitutional right to privacy
- The destructive impact from contraceptive bans
- Promoting gender equity and public health
- Reducing poverty, preventing unwanted pregnancies, and promoting social stability

I believe in advocating for vulnerable populations, promoting equity and access to resources, and supporting the uniqueness of each individual and their situation. I respectfully write **in support of SB350 SD1** and encourage action that recognizes an individual's autonomy and support's their quality of life. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 4:27:45 PM

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 4:27:45 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Justin Uahinui	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 5:02:18 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dave Willweber	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Please vote NO on this bill bc it is literally anti-aloha. Aloha=Alo (in the presence of) + Ha (breath or breath of life). This bill is anti-aloha bc it is pushing contraception. Contraception=Contra (against) + ception (short for conception, conception is the beginning of life/Ha).

For that reason alone, since we are the Aloha people, all bills including this one should promote Ha and life from beginning (conception) to end (natural death). In addition, this bill is unnecessary because contraception is already available. And let's leave the constitution alone, mahalo.

Are you a person of Alo-Ha? If yes, then vote NO on this bill.

Mahalo, Dave Willweber



<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 6:03:24 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joseph-paul Akim	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Honorable Senators,

This bill seeks to address an issue that is already governed by existing law, highlighting the need to adhere to the current legal framework rather than convoluting it with unnecessary constitutional amendments. It's crucial to understand that the matter at hand is not about the constitutional rights problem but a lack of medical providers. Let's focus on improving the system we have instead of complicating it with amendments that may lead to further legal challenges. We don't have an access issue to contraceptives; this is not a crisis but a response out of fear. There are no age restrictions, and how does this affect minors?

Sincerely,

Joe Akim



<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 6:19:19 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carm Akim	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Gabbard, Vice-Chair Moriwaki, and members of both JDC and WAM committee,

As a healthcare provider, I strongly oppose SB 350.

1. We need to focus our attention on having more medical/health providers on our islands, how to train them, keep them, and how to attract them. We are not in a crisis of not having access to contraceptives. WE HAVE A NURSE/ MEDICAL PROVIDER CRISIS and have begged the House to help us with our dire situation, and we got shot down on our first hearing. On the other hand, no one heard our Safe Staffing bill that Sen. Aquino proposed; we didn't get any traction. SB 350 is not a constitutional right and we health providers humbly ask to be treated right.

2. This bill is already addressed as a current law, and it does not have to be a constitutional amendment. Why create more laws that address the same issue but neglect and reject the ones that address its root cause?

I respectfully urge our esteemed Senators to focus on supporting us medical and health providers in our efforts to care for our communities, including those who seek contraceptives.

Aloha nui,

Carm Akim, RN MSN WCC



<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 7:16:09 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Allan P. Talbert	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear members of the State Senate Judiciary Committee, and the State Senate Ways and Means Committee,

My name is Allan Talbert, and I am submiting my written testimony in opposition to SB 350 SD1.

First of all, we already have laws in place ensuring access to contraceptives, so I believe that this bill is unneccesary and an overeach.

Secondly, the vague proposal of this bill does not specify age restrictions, thereby leaving the possibility of minors as young as 11 years old, to be included in the broad term "individuals".

Thirdly, the real issue is medical provider availability, NOT constitutional rights, therefore constitutional amendments should not be used for issues that are already addressed by state law.

In closing, due to all of the items that I have stated above, I am in opposition to this bill and I ask that you would oppose this bill as well.

Sincerely and respectfully,

Allan P. Talbert

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 8:27:00 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dayna Matsumura	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose.



<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 8:35:54 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
james wallace	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments: I oppose SB350. This is the depopulation bill that dont want children to be born. This is purely a satanic bill. Whoever brang up this bill should be in jail!!!

<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 9:27:45 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
J Miles	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose. While I support individual rights to contraception and even to choice, our tax dollars should not be required to pay for it.

Thank you.



<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2025 10:09:39 PM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shanda Brack	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Chair Dela Cruz and committee members,

I am writing in strong support of SB350.

As a family practice nurse practitioner, I can tell you access to safe and legal contraception is a critical aspect of healthcare. Women deserve the right to control their own bodies and to not be forced to bear children they are not prepared to raise.

Allowing people to prevent pregnancy is the right thing to do. Furthermore, delivering babies is expensive and risky. Contraceptives can allow parents to remain in the workforce to support the children they have or to delay pregnancy until a time of their choosing. People who come in for contraception are then exposed to the healthcare system and are more likely to access recommended screenings and public health interventions like vaccines, substance abuse and mental health care. These interventions benefit our entire community by improving the health of families.

The idea that the state could tell me I do not have the right to prevent pregnancy is abhorrent. And for those community members that oppose the freedom to terminate a pregnancy, the obvious solution to that is to increase access to safe and affordable on demand contraception.

While we currently have laws protecting reproductive rights, we have seen recent national legislation restricting women's rights and the Supreme Court overturning Roe v. Wade. A constitutional amendment is *NOT* unecessary, but critical to ensuring continued reproductive freedoms for Hawaii's ohana.

Finally, lack of access to contraceptives disproportionately affects women, since pregnancy does not put a man's life at risk. Nor does it typically affect a man's earning capacity or job. Denying access to contraception is discriminatory and usually limits women's career and economic opportunities in a way that it does not limit men's.

Again, I urge the committee to pass SB350 and send a clear message that Hawaii stands firmly in defense of reproductive freedom.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this legislation that will support our community in so many ways and harms no one.



<u>SB-350-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/19/2025 6:06:55 AM Testimony for JDC on 2/19/2025 10:16:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sara Kim	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Let's bring God's morals and reasons for no premarital sex back into schools. Teaching why sex before marriage only hurts us. Teach the statistics of depression, fear and losing a piece of ourselves, our soul, everytime we are intimate with someone who is not committed and not our life's partner!