

From: [Kathleen Campbell](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: I oppose SB1
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 4:09:57 PM
Attachments: [SSM_Consequences_FLYER_draft\(1\).pdf](#)
[SSM_consequences_Massachsettes_2012.pdf](#)

Karl Rhoads, Chair
House Judiciary Committee

Sylvia Luke, Chair
House Finance Committee

Dear Honorable Chairs Rhoads and Luke and Members of the House Judiciary and Finance Committees:

I do not support S.B. NO. 1 for the following reasons

The intended and / or unintended consequences on society are very clear and all point to a break down of our civil society; invading the family and home. **Attached are 2 papers talking about the CONSEQUENCES of same sex "marriage." These are facts, not opinions.**

No one is really addressing the foundation of this bill, and as such, we, as Americans, are being disingenuous. Although uncomfortable and emotional, we must include a dialog of morality on this issue.

Some would have us think that our society has progressed to the point where we must embrace homosexuality in this societal progressive evolution, but homosexuality is not new. It has been around for a long time; dating back 3000 BC, to Moses day and the Bible; which really brings us to two questions:

1. Who has authority to define "morality?" The Bible or the State? The Bible clearly states that homosexual behavior is immoral. Just as pornography, murder, rape, theft, etc. of which our civil government, through our laws, prescribes.

Our nation's virtue and morality were founded in the Judeo Christian ethic; based on the words, the truths and the principles of the Christian Bible. This is not debatable. There are volumes of documentation supporting our nation's acknowledgement and reliance on God; which leads to the second question

2. Is this still "One Nation Under God"? Does God still have a place in the "American experiment?"

President Gerald Ford said: "Without God there could be no American form of government, nor an American way of life. Recognition of the Supreme Being is the first - the most basic-expression of Americanism. Thus the found fathers of America saw it, and thus with God's help, it will continue to be."

Making any immoral lifestyle A LAW brings death to a civil society. The ONLY way any

immorality celebrated could remotely be accepted is if we, as a nation, remove God and the Judeo Christian ethic out of civil government. Because this is the problem... God and the Bible. By voting to legalize same sex "marriage", aren't our "representatives" really voting to do just this... remove God and the Judeo Christian ethic out of our civil government?

This testimony is respectfully submitted by

Kathleen Campbell

1794 Halama St.

Kihei, HI

96753

October 26, 2013

Dear Leaders of our State,

I humbly thank you for the opportunity to share my heart and thoughts regarding this very difficult issue. First I would like to confess that I, like every human being born am broken, and in desperate need of grace. My view is not an attack or bias against any person but a desire to speak the truth in love with a standard that is beyond myself but that which gives us a reference point in which we live and truly love one another.

Francis Schaeffer once said, "For any finite particulars to have any meaning in life, it has to have an infinite reference point." For us as humans to have any meaning, purpose or any responsible moral code to live by, we need an infinite reference point. If we all had our own reference point then on one can condemn or approve any law or moral behavior as right or wrong.

Who is to say that Adolph Hitler did any wrong unless we have a standard that says, "Thou shall not kill." Mr. Hitler thought he was doing the world a favor through his ethnic cleansing but it went against a higher moral law that brings a reference point of what was right and wrong.

I humbly submit that God himself and His word is and has been the reference point for us and our country since the birth of our nation. Our forefathers had the Bible as our reference point, moral compass, laws, rules of conduct and absolutes that allowed our society to have a foundation of thought and conduct to live by.

We can however choose to submit to His ways and principles or change and make our own rules to live by, but we must understand that although we have the freedom to make those choices, we do not have the freedom from the consequences of our choices.

It is with this heavy heart that I share my deep, deep concern for the direction that our country, our state and even our families are moving, from once being a people who stood upon God's word as our guide to having our own reasoning and relative moral compass to be a guide for ourselves.

If we look at the history of the human race, we can conclude that

when society turns away from God's divine purposes and ways, it ends up being corrupt and self-destructive.

About 2000 years ago, the apostle Paul wrote a letter to the Roman church. It is almost scary how his words penned at that time resonate so true for us today. I humbly ask that you take some time to connect with this passage and ask what responsibility as leaders who will help shape our future should respond to the decision that will soon be addressed and made.

Romans 1:18-32

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. **19** For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. **20** For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. **21** For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. **22** Claiming to be wise, they became fools, **23** and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

24 Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, **25** because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

26 For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; **27** and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.

28 And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. **29** They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, **30** slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, **31** foolish, faithless, heartless,

ruthless. **32** Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

When Jesus walked this earth, his life demonstrated what true love really meant. He loved sinners and reached out to the world around him. When confronted with the Pharisees who wanted to stone a woman caught in adultery he told her accusers, "He who is without sin cast the first stone." One by one they all left. Alone with the woman he spoke love and truth to her. He said, "neither do I condemn you, go and sin no more." Jesus loved the sinner but hated her sin. He knew that it was sin that would destroy us. Homosexuals are loved by God, but like any behavior that does not conform to God's standard; God cannot condone that behavior. Although a murderer, liar, fornicator, or thief are all loved by God, their behavior is not acceptable.

That we must love despite ones sexual orientation is no doubt. However there are deeper and greater issues that compel me to say that allowing same sex marriage will be a step away from God's Heart and Purpose for marriage and family and thus we will reap the consequences that will continue the turning away from His perfect and good plan for our lives. I am saddened to say this but I too must share my heart. Thank you for taking the time to hear my heart!

Aloha Ke Akua,

Ronald Kam

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLWebTestimony](#)
Cc: punabaptistpahoahawaii@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 7:35:26 PM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/26/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Alan Tamashiro	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose SB-1. I believe this special session violates our democratic process. This is a highly controversial bill. The voice of the people has been excluded from this process. This bill will alter our island lifestyle and culture. We are all products our Kapuna and our parents. Our earliest concepts of male and female characteristics come from our ancestors. This bill will change our definition of family. Please vote no and let this issue be decided by a larger body of decision makers.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLWebTestimony](#)
Cc: reidd001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 8:14:07 PM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/26/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Polly Reid	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please vote NO on Senate Bill 1.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: JDLWebTestimony
Cc: jdnaka808@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 8:19:03 PM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/26/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Donna Nakamura	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Submitting testimony as an individual regarding my opposition to the legislation regarding same sex marriage. This bill has huge ramifications to families, children, education and religious freedoms. this is too important to allow the legislative body (which I feel is heavily biased and politicized to be meaningfully representative of their constituent's beliefs) to be the determining voice for this issue. I support the option of having Hawaii's people vote on the issue . . . it's the right thing to do. I respectfully request the issue be given the time and voice it needs so that we can do the right thing for the majority of our people and not for the purpose of satisfying a minority position.

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File attachment: wordicon.exe
The file attached to this email was removed because the file name is not allowed.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: JDLWebTestimony
Cc: chito_sumulong@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 8:22:31 PM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/26/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Chito S. Sumulong	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This is the most important reason. Whenever one violates the natural moral order established by God, one sins and offends God. Same-sex "marriage" does just this. Accordingly, anyone who professes to love God must be opposed to it. Marriage is not the creature of any State. Rather, it was established by God in Paradise for our first parents, Adam and Eve. As we read in the Book of Genesis: "God created man in His image; in the Divine image he created him; male and female He created them. God blessed them, saying: 'Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it.'" (Gen. 1:28-29) The same was taught by Our Savior Jesus Christ: "From the beginning of the creation, God made them male and female. For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother; and shall cleave to his wife." (Mark 10:6-7). Genesis also teaches how God punished Sodom and Gomorrah for the sin of homosexuality: "The Lord rained down sulphurous fire upon Sodom and Gomorrah. He overthrew those cities and the whole Plain, together with the inhabitants of the cities and the produce of the soil." (Gen. 19:24-25)

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Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
October 28, 2013
10:30 AM Hearing

Dear Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

My name is Susan Duffy. I have been married for a little over 30 years and my husband and I have two teenage daughters. I am writing to urge you to oppose any bill that would legalize same sex marriage and to reject any legislation that would seek to undermine the institution of marriage as we know it. Marriage equality cannot be achieved by making same sex couples the equivalent of opposite sex couples.

The essential public purpose of marriage is to attach mothers and fathers to their children and to one another. Marriage is adult society's institutional structure for protecting the legitimate interests of children who also have rights in our society. Children deserve to have a mother and a father. I am sure you have heard from many professional organizations that claim that same sex couples make fine parents but I would caution against such optimistic claims particularly since we know that some of these studies have been called out for used flawed methodologies.

Furthermore, we have not even begun to explore all of the unintended consequences that are cropping up all over where same sex marriage has been legalized. We already have civil unions in Hawaii and our understanding was that this was enough. We had to have civil unions so that same sex partners could have their benefits. If need be, go in and change the civil union's law so that they can get their federal benefits. There is no reason to take such a dramatic step in record time to fundamentally change the institution of marriage via a special session.

If you vote yes to any bill which undermines marriage, you will harm your constituents in ways that you can't even begin to imagine and all for the sake of giving the title of "married" to same sex couples who head less than 1% of Hawaii's households. If you are so certain that the people want to have same sex marriage legalized here in the islands, then by all means, put it to a vote of the people, but do not use a special session to slip this through thinking we won't notice.

Please, for the sake of the future children of the state of Hawaii, resist the pressure you are facing. Please vote no on any measure that seeks to legalize same sex marriage.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLWebTestimony](#)
Cc: mmnpang@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 8:34:18 PM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/26/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Minnie Pang	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Same-sex marriage should not be passed in a special session. Traditional marriage is best in raising children by their biological father & mother. Marriage was established to join a man & a woman on Holy matrimony and shall remain as that. The U.S. dollar bill stated - IN GOD WE TRUST, we need to respect what GOD taught us to preserve this Country.

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Lynette K. Serrao
99-113 Pamoho Pl.
Aiea, Hawaii 96701

October 25, 2013

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
The Honorable Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Hearing Date: Monday, October 28, 2013 at 10:30 am
I will be present to personally deliver my testimony.

*Re: In **Opposition** to S.B. 1: The Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013*

Dear Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

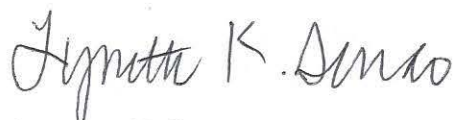
I am opposed to S.B.1, the Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013, because it is in utter opposition to the will of Hawaii voters who voted in 1998 to define marriage exclusively between a man and a woman in the Hawaii constitution. More than 250,000 Hawaii voters expressed their resolute position on the definition of marriage as exclusively between a man and a woman.

In addition, the Senate bill does not provide protections for the rights of parents to remove their children from public school classes that support or promote same-sex marriage or minimize the importance of marriage between a man and a woman. It re-defines the most core institution of society, marriage.

The Senate bill does not properly protect religious institutions. Many churches have nonprofit organizations to help them carry out their religious missions, such as religious schools and colleges. The Senate bill covers only "religious organizations." Unlike protections in other states, it does not protect these other important institutions that are vital to churches. Many churches charge fees for the use of their chapels for weddings so they can use the additional money to support important religious activities, such as their youth ministry or program to feed the hungry. The Senate bill excludes protections for churches that do so.

I urge you to vote **NO** on S.B. 1. Thank you for your time and leadership.

Sincerely,



Lynette K. Serrao
Hawaii Voter

Jonathan J. U. Serrao
99-113 Pamoho Pl.
Aiea, Hawaii 96701

October 26, 2013

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
The Honorable Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Hearing Date: Monday, October 28, 2013 at 10:30 am

Re: In **Opposition** to S.B. 1: *The Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013*

Dear Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

I am opposed to S.B.1, the Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013 for the following reasons:

It denies individual citizens their 1st Amendment right of freedom of religion upon which this country was founded. One of the reasons that our forefathers left the mother country was due to religious persecution.

It redefines the most core institution of society which is marriage. Marriage between a man and a woman is for the founding and establishing of families.

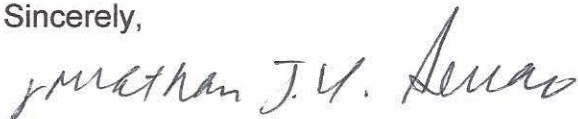
It fails to protect churches, religious groups and temples from lawsuits. It will also fail to protect Bishop's, Priest's and other Clergy members from lawsuits.

It provides no protection for the right of religious parents to remove their children from public school classes that support or promote same-sex marriage or minimize the importance of marriage between a man and a woman.

It is in opposition to the will of Hawaii voters who voted in 1998 to define marriage exclusively between a man and women in the Hawaii constitution. The people of Hawaii need to vote on this matter.

I urge you to vote **NO** on S.B. 1. Thank you for your time and leadership.

Sincerely,



Jonathan J. U. Serrao
Hawaii Voter

From: [Dave Beadle](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Special Session concerning same sex marriage
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 10:09:58 PM
Attachments: [consequencesofweakreligiousfreedomprotectioninsamese.zip](#)

First let me state that I am against same sex marriage. Marriage is not about love, it is not about sex, or a contract, it is not a right. Marriage is about the family. It involves children. The family predates all other institutions, ie government, banking, education, religion...hence government, which derives its power from the people, can not redefine an institution that is older than itself short of being tyrannical. The family is a natural by product of a man and a woman creating a family together...and governments getting involved in the past is because society across the globe recognizes that a healthy stable family as that creates stability for the whole society, and therefore has created means to protect and promote the traditional family. Kids need both a Father and a Mother. Yes they can survive with a single parent or same sex parents...but it is in their best interests and the communities best interest to have children raised by a father and a mother.

Now if two or more adults want to live together and do whatever they please to each other...that is not what makes a family...but I could really care less, more power to them. However, when they declare that I must accept their lifestyle as wholesome and good, I am sorry that violates my religious understandings of right and wrong. I strongly believe that the family comes from God himself, and follows natural law (that is we should see the family appear naturally...and we do in the traditional sense...two females can't have kids nor can two males without artificially making it happen.

It greatly bothers me that businesses have been forced to bake cakes, be their photographer, host their wedding, under the banner that it is their civil right. Well there are two rights these tyrannical laws violate, the right to freely associate and do business with whom I wish to do business with...it doesn't matter if someone else thinks I am wrong...we have a natural right to associate and do business in a free society. The other right it violates is my religious freedom. If you must pass a gay marriage law, then there must be language in place to protect these rights...religious freedom and the freedom to freely associate with whom I wish to associate with. In other words I should not be forced in any way, as an individual, perform any action I do not want to do. There is no harm to them in denying my services because they can go somewhere else.

Attached are two pdf documents that I am including as part of my argument.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: JDLWebTestimony
Cc: rmakaiwi@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 10:28:17 PM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/26/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Rachel Makaiwi	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am opposed to the bill as it is written. According to SB 1, "Religious organizations and facilities; liability exemption under certain circumstances. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, no religious organization shall be subject to any fine, penalty, injunction, administrative proceeding, or civil liability for refusing to make its facilities or grounds available for solemnization of any marriage celebration under this chapter; provided that the religious organization does not make its facilities or grounds available to the general public for solemnization of any marriage celebration for a Profit." Although attempting to protect the religious freedoms of organizations throughout Hawaii, this bill fails to protect the rights of religious organizations. As written, the rights of religious groups are only protected "provided that the religious organization does not make its facilities or grounds available to the general public for solemnization of any marriage celebration for a Profit." Speaking from my own experiences, my church facilities have always been open to people of all backgrounds. Sharing what we have to all in a nonjudgmental attitude has allowed us to continue to treat others with equality and fairness. However, this bill is threatening our ability to share our facilities with everyone regardless of their religious affiliation or sexual orientations. I urge you to change the wording of this bill to truly protect the rights of religious organizations and all citizens throughout Hawaii. Thank you for your time.

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Andrey N. Krez
2611 Ala Wai Boulevard
Apartment 1405
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

October 25, 2013

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Senate President
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, HI 96813
and Members of the Senate

RE: In opposition to passing SB1 as currently written

Dear Senate President Kim and Members of the Senate,

After consideration of all sides, and a very contentious debate, I strongly am in opposition to the passing of SB1 as currently written. Most parties seem to discuss and argue this issue based on emotion on both sides; I invite you to look at it from fact and not emotion. Three concerns of mine in the bill are: 1) the overt removal of verbiage restricting the First Amendment rights and considerations of the US Constitution, 2) the inaccuracy that this is a civil rights issue, and 3) the surprising refusal to protect the citizens and the previous votes therefrom.

1. Alteration of the SB1 Section 1, paragraphs 3(a), and (b);

This section reads as follows and no longer acknowledges that clergy have a constitutional right to uphold millennia of religious teachings by refusing to participate in gay marriage ceremonies. Furthermore, it removes a broad general provision of (in the private sector) who can solemnize to a narrow restriction, removing the inherent First Amendment rights of ALL citizens. This restricts the Constitution as well. Where previous verbiage includes a broader inclusion of persons

Refusal to solemnize a marriage. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to require any person authorized to perform solemnizations pursuant to this chapter to solemnize any marriage in violation of the person's rights as guaranteed by the Constitution of this State and the United States Constitution. No authorized person who fails or refuses to solemnize any marriage under this section shall be subject to any fine, penalty, injunction, administrative proceeding, or civil liability for the failure or refusal. (08/22/2013)

compared to now

Refusal to solemnize a marriage. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to require any minister, priest, officer of any religious denomination or society, or religious society not having clergy but providing solemnizations that is authorized to perform solemnizations pursuant to this chapter to solemnize any marriage, and no such minister, priest, officer of any religious denomination or society, or religious society not having clergy that fails or refuses for any reason to solemnize any marriage under this section shall be subject to any fine, penalty, or other civil action for the failure or refusal. (10/19/2013)

The state can allow same-sex marriage, but cannot force a private citizen to solemnize, or tolerate the union. This is a clear violation of the First Amendment. Even the state of California recognizes marriage dually, both as 1) civil, and 2) religious. The latter the state cannot regulate. And it is a person's individual right to operate a private business as they see fit.

We see this daily in Hawaii in the tourist industry. Many businesses clearly cater and have inherent discrimination based on a person's race or geographic origination; we tolerate this. If a private business chooses not to cater to any person that does not adhere to the values (real or perceived) of the company's business plan and motto, they have the right. Conversely, if a private company wishes to cater specifically to a special niche market, they can do so. Both have equal opportunity to fail or succeed, this should not be coerced by legislation. This is determined by the private market and businesses, and the acceptance or refusal of them. In the public sector, legislation to assure complete diversity should be the norm, however.

2. **The inaccuracy that this is a civil rights issue.**

One of the most respected civil rights leaders, Dr. Martin Luther King defined this the best. In an excerpt from his letters in the Birmingham jail, he defined a civil right as the right (including civil disobedience) to correct and right the wrongs of unjust laws. Specifically, an unjust law is a code inflicted upon a minority which that minority had no part in enacting or creating because it did not have the unhampered right to vote.

In the case of SB1, we are not correcting any unjust law to two persons who wish to share their life. Under the current civil-unions bill in this State, they have all the rights. Furthermore, and legally under any contracts created between them there is no discrimination. When we think of those who are harmed, most persons do not feel homosexuals are discriminated against in 2013 in the United States. Studies and facts are evident looking at the lifestyles of most homosexuals, that in the United States, they have a high proportion of higher education, more disposable income and investments, and travel proportionately higher than heterosexual couples. There is no civil right issue here. Take a look at homosexuals in many African, Asian, and Middle Eastern countries and the inhumanities they struggle with; after which, you can understand the argument of a civil right is misunderstood and dilutes true and real issues that are unjust.

The fact is that there is no law on the books written that overtly discriminates or restricts a person for being a homosexual. There are no rights in the Constitution to marriage. This is equal for all persons, regardless of sexual orientation. If society wants this, there are procedures to change the Constitution and add this right.

3. Blatant dismissal of the Hawaii Voters

We have had this issue in discussion for years, and it is time to move on. The issue was put forth to the voters, and the voters decided as a society what the definition of marriage is. Given our unique and very open and tolerant society, the legislative body put forth the civil-unions bill, which was passed and has not had much opposition. It was fair, and put us in the column of tolerant states. Fast forward, and allow high-profile attorneys from the mainland [names withheld for libel, but we know who they are] must stir up our unique and loving society.

With the stroke of the pen, SB1 has blatantly removed HRS §572C (2), which was written as a direct result of the voters of the State of Hawaii, and provided a compromise of most parties.

Now, the voters feel violated. This issue should be brought forth to voters with the terms as you are attempting to pass in SB1, with directness, transparency, and proper debate.

The State of Hawaii has a unique and strong tradition of family and unity. The changing of the law today as written, actually creates more angst, contention and intolerance from all sides. Today you are considering not just a bill or law that addresses temporal concerns of the community, but a law that transforms the fundamental basis of the family and the continued slippery slope of the loss of Constitutional Rights, notwithstanding the trust of the Legislative branch.

Regardless of your decision, remember, this is a vote that will be inscribed in history, one not from the people. Make sure you are on the ethical side of history—not just the popular.

Sincerely,

Andrey N. Krez
Travel Professional

October 24, 2013

Honorable Senator Clayton Hee, Chairman, and Members of the Senate Committee on
Judiciary and Labor
Hawaii State Capitol
415 Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Hearing Date: October 28, 2013 at 10:30 am
Written Testimony Only

Subject: Testimony in Opposition of Proposed SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

I am writing in opposition to the proposed Senate Bill 1, relating to Equal Rights that will be discussed in your Special Legislative Session beginning on October 28, 2013.

I strongly feel that same gender marriage is contrary to our fundamental religious beliefs. We feel that marriage is a sacred union that is reserved for a man and a woman, whereby children are born, nurtured and best raised by the father and the mother who brought them into this world.

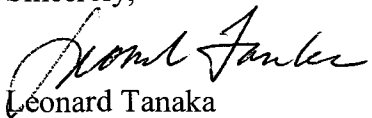
The Bill that is being proposed extinguishes my religious liberty, and does not provide adequate protection clauses for clergies, religious organizations, its affiliates and individual members of the church.

The Bill excludes any protection clauses for individuals and small businesses. As a small business owner, this infringes on my rights of free enterprise and freedom of choice.

This Bill also excludes protection for our children in public schools and the negative content of their curriculum which will go against their religious teachings and upbringing.

I humbly request that you **VOTE IN OPPOSITION** to SB1 relating to Equal Rights.

Sincerely,



Leonard Tanaka
1390 Keneki Place
Hilo, HI 96720

To the Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

The following testimony is submitted for the public hearing regarding SB1 during the special session convening on 28 Oct 2013. The public hearing is scheduled for Monday, 28 Oct 2013 at 10:30 a.m. at the Capitol Auditorium. As a neighbor island resident, will not be testifying in person and request written testimony provided be accepted for SB1, relating to equal rights.

My personal beliefs are that marriage is ordained of God and the family unit is part of that designation, with a husband and wife providing a nurturing environment for their children. This has been the convention of the human race for thousands of years. That said, I recognize that there are many who do not agree with my religious beliefs.

We live in a Democratic Republic where the rights of the minority are not to be trampled by those of the majority. In our modern times, we have alternative lifestyles with people choosing not to have traditional marriages. As fellow citizens, we all have unalienable rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. However, it is important that we do not trample on other people's freedom and the pursuit of their happiness. Public law is instituted to protect such freedoms, whether they are regarding religious or moral beliefs. It is incumbent on law makers to provide equal protections for all citizens.

Definition of Marriage:

The convention of marriage is so fundamental to our society that we have great difficulty separating civil liberties and the marriage itself. The ruling of United States vs. Windsor against Section 3 of DOMA is that the Federal Government must recognize same-sex marriages approved by the states under the 5th Amendment's Due Process Clause. The case revolved around probate proceedings and the due process for a Canadian same-sex marriage recognized in New York. The Supreme Court ruling does not require the State of Hawaii to recognize or allow same-sex marriage.

I had hoped that Civil Unions could be federally recognized and Due Process protection provided to all citizens without the redefinition of marriage. The legislature should consider seeking equal protection and Federal recognition of state recognized Civil Unions as an alternative. Yes, the draft bill states: *"It is the intent of the legislature that there be no legal distinction between same-sex married couples and opposite-sex married couples with respect to marriage under the laws of this State."* It could also be worded that **"there be no legal distinction between same-sex civil union couples and opposite-sex married couples with respect to marriage protections under the laws of this State."** Equal protections, Federal recognition and due process can be provided without redefining marriage.

In the event you disagree with the above arguments, let's consider a second option. Over the centuries, both religious and common law marriage became a civil institution. The Christian viewpoint of marriage included raising children, promoting mutual fidelity and chastity, and be united man and wife in a bond of love derived from God. As this institution became widespread, Civil marriage has become, in the secular view, a public commitment to maintain a stable relationship in which they will support one another and their dependents.

Not to trample upon the religious protections of the First Amendment, the Supreme Court has ruled that “the clause against establishment of religion by law was intended to erect 'a wall of separation between Church and State.’” The cause of religious organizations should revolve around the separation between Religious Marriage and Civil Marriage. There should be an option for licensing to perform opposite-sex, same-sex or both types of marriage.

If, on the basis of religious beliefs, an individual or religious institution refuses to perform same-sex marriage, they should be able to request a license limited to solemnization of opposite-sex marriages only. There may be clergy who refuse to perform opposite-sex marriages. It would be equally unfair to force them to perform against their religious beliefs. Allowing them the option to be licensed to solemnize marriages according to their beliefs, would ensure that neither would be licensed to perform beyond their religious beliefs. If the legislature would prefer, specific definitions may be added to define Religious Marriage separately from Civil Marriage.

Specific Concerns:

§572-C Right of parents.

- *“These rights shall include, but are not limited to, paternity, maternity, and parentage presumptions based on marriage. “*
 - Consider the ramifications if an opposite-sex married couple divorces and the party with primary custody enters into same-sex marriage. Are the parental rights of biological parents protected against “parentage presumptions based on marriage?” Although custody proceedings are normally dictated by Family Court, this wording also introduces parentage rights of same-sex married couples into future custody proceedings.

§572-F Refusal to solemnize a marriage.

- *“Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to require any minister, priest, officer of any religious denomination or society, or religious society not having clergy but providing solemnizations that is authorized to perform solemnizations pursuant to this chapter to solemnize any marriage, and no such minister, priest, officer of any religious denomination or society, or religious society not having clergy that fails or refuses for any reason to solemnize any marriage under this section shall be subject to any fine, penalty, or other civil action for the failure or refusal.”*
 - If given the option to choose to be authorized for opposite-sex, same-sex or both marriages, may alleviate this problem.
 - The wording is overly complicated and leaves room for misinterpretation. Other states have better protection statements.
 - New York’s Marriage Equality Bill states it as: **“A refusal by a benevolent organization or a religious corporation, incorporated under the education law or the religious corporations law, to provide accommodations, advantages, facilities or privileges in connection with section ten-a of this article shall not create a civil claim or cause of action.”**
 - Vermont states it as: **“This section does not require a member of the clergy authorized to solemnize a marriage as set forth in subsection (a) of this section, nor societies of Friends or Quakers, the Christadelphian Ecclesia, or the Baha’i Faith to solemnize any marriage, and any refusal to do so shall not create any civil claim or cause of action.”**

- The current wording only protects individuals and not religious organizations from refusal to solemnize marriage. As subtle as this may seem, it does not prevent lawsuits against religious organizations or societies for failure to perform same-sex marriages.

§572-G Religious organizations and facilities; liability exemption under certain circumstances.

- *“(a) A religious organization shall not be required to make a religious facility owned or leased by the religious organization available for solemnization of a particular marriage; provided that:”*
 - Section (a) should stop at the first line. NO religious organization should be required to make a religious facility owned or leased by that religious organization available for solemnization of a particular marriage. Subsections (1), (2), and (3) should be removed.
 - Vermont’s 2010 Bill S-115 states: **“The civil marriage laws shall not be construed to affect the ability of a society to determine the admission of its members as provided in section 4464 of this title, or to determine the scope of beneficiaries in accordance with section 4477 of this title, and shall not require a society that has been established and is operating for charitable and educational purposes and which is operated, supervised, or controlled by or in connection with a religious organization to provide insurance benefits to any person if to do so would violate the society’s free exercise of religion, as guaranteed by the First Amendment to the Constitution of United States or by Chapter I, Article 3 or the Constitution of the State of Vermont.”**
 - New York’s Marriage Equality Bill states: **“Notwithstanding any other provision of law, pursuant to subdivision nine of section two hundred ninety-two of the executive law, a corporation incorporated under the benevolent orders law or described in the benevolent orders law but formed under any other law of this state or a religious corporation incorporated under the education law or the religious corporations laws shall be deemed to be in its nature distinctly private and therefore, shall not be required to provide accommodations, advantages, facilities or privileges related to the solemnization or celebration of a marriage.”**
 - There should be no restriction to the exemption of religious organizations for providing facilities for a solemnization of a particular marriage. The State should not force religious organizations to perform or make available facilities if the performance of those marriages is contrary to their religious beliefs. Consider the wording of other states and the protections offered to their religious organizations.
- *“(a)(1) The religious facility is regularly used by the religious organization for its religious purposes;”*
 - Please consider how this will affect religious schools and educational institutions. If a school teaches certain religious values, does that constitute regular use for its religious purposes? How will this apply to a school gym that is requested to host a marriage they oppose?
- *“(a)(2) For solemnization of marriages pursuant to this chapter, the religious organization restricts use of the religious facility to its members; and”*
 - This item specifically discriminates against interfaith marriages. Couples with varying religious ideals will be forced to become members of one congregation in order to have this religious exemption. The State will be impairing the religious freedoms of interfaith couples.
- *“(a)(3) The religious organization does not operate the religious facility as a for-profit business.”*
 - The State should not force religious organizations operating for-profit businesses to act against their religious beliefs. This will have impact statewide to many small churches that rely on for-profit ventures for sustainment. They already have to abide by Excise

Tax Law for their for-profit ventures. They should be allowed exemption to perform their business without the state imposition on their religious beliefs.

- *“(b) A religious organization that refuses to make a religious facility available for solemnization of a marriage under subsection (a) shall not be subject to any fine, penalty, injunction, administrative proceeding, or civil liability for the refusal.”*
 - Consider revising with subsection (a) as follows: **“A religious organization shall not be required to make a religious facility owned or leased by the religious organization available for solemnization of a particular marriage; A religious organization that refuses to make a religious facility available for solemnization of a marriage shall not be subject to any fine, penalty, injunction, administrative proceeding, or civil liability for the refusal.”**
- *“(c) Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to exempt the owner or operator of any religious facility from the requirements of chapter 489 if the religious facility is a place of public accommodation as defined in section 489-2.”*
 - The definition of “place of public accommodations” is defined as *“a business, accommodation, refreshment, entertainment, recreation, or transportation facility of any kind whose goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations are extended, offered, sold, or otherwise made available to the general public as customers, clients, or visitors.”*
 - This essentially provides no protection to religious institutions. If a visitor walks into to a church opposed to same-sex marriage and asks to use the bathroom, does this classify the religious facility as a “place of public accommodation?” If a church allows community basketball games but is opposed to same-sex marriage, they will face civil liability for refusal to allow such marriages at their facility. If the intent of the legislature is to have all churches opposed to same-sex marriage close their doors and take down “public welcome” signs, the end result is religious oppression by the law or threat of legal action. The State needs to separate itself from the regulation of religious organizations.
 - The legislature should consider striking the requirement for public accommodations if contrary to religious belief. The State of New York states: **“a religious corporation incorporated under the education law or the religious corporations laws shall be deemed to be in its nature distinctly private and therefore, shall not be required to provide accommodations, advantages, facilities or privileges related to the solemnization or celebration of a marriage.”** The State of Hawaii can make the same declaration to provide religious exemption for these organizations.

§572C-2 Findings.

- Do not agree with the deletion of *“The legislature finds that the people of Hawaii choose to preserve the tradition of marriage as a unique social institution based upon the committed union of one man and one woman.”*
 - Hawaii, as a State, voted on the definition of marriage. This should not be struck from the public record. Additional discussion on the Supreme Court ruling and subsequent legislation should also be added.
- Do not agree with the deletion of *“marriage should be subject to restrictions such as prohibiting respective parties to a valid marriage contract from standing in relation to each other, i.e., brother and sister of the half as well as to the whole blood, uncle and niece, aunt and nephew.”*

- The remaining wording only provides cursory mention of prohibited legal restrictions without definition. The example of the widowed mother and unmarried son leads one to believe that this marriage would be acceptable under the Marriage Equality Act. This would allow brothers, sisters, and other close relatives to intermarry leading one to question applicability of incest laws.

As a member of my faith, I am opposed to the redefinition of marriage. As a citizen, I understand that the civil liberties of the same-sex community require addressing. Please consider the above revisions and concerns. I am gravely concerned that, in trying to provide equal protection for same-sex couples, the pendulum will swing too far and impinge on the “separation of church and state.” Many in the community are concerned with what this means for sex education in schools, activists testing public tolerance of same-sex behavior and enticing individuals/organizations into civil lawsuits.

When you look at the atmosphere in Massachusetts, there is increasing intolerance of any viewpoint in favor of traditional marriage. Churches and religious organizations are being targeted for their beliefs that homosexuality is immoral. If this bill is not amended, it will provide opportunities for special rights groups to unjustly target religious groups.

Please revise **§572-F** and **§572-G** to provide adequate religious exemption, as other states have also found it necessary. In the State of New York, **“a religious corporation incorporated under the education law or the religious corporations laws shall be deemed to be in its nature distinctly private and therefore, shall not be required to provide accommodations, advantages, facilities or privileges related to the solemnization or celebration of a marriage.”** If agreement on this cannot be reached, an amendment to HRS 489-2 should be made to the effect that: “Public accommodations do not include a religious or nonprofit fraternal or social association or corporation.” In reading the Americans with Disabilities Act Title III Technical Assistance Manual, religious exemption “covers all of the activities of a religious entity, whether religious or secular.” The examples provided also allowed exemptions for preschools operated by religious entities.

At the end of the day, this is about equality, both Equal Protection and Free Exercise. In providing equality for same-sex couples, we need to be wary about creating new inequalities against the free exercise of religion. SB1, as currently written, will prohibit the free exercise rights guaranteed by Section 4 of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii.

Abraham K. Nihipali
Hanapepe, HI

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLWebTestimony](#)
Cc: thumbtied@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 11:38:18 PM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/26/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Erin Haynes	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: To: Chair Senator Clayton Hee Vice Chair Senator Maile Shimabukuro And Members of the Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee RE: In OPPOSITION to SB1 I am in opposition to SB1 because this bill would restrict the religious freedom of the people of Hawaii. If enacted, the First Amendment constitutional rights of our citizens WILL be violated. I feel that the ramifications of the passage of this bill have not been adequately reviewed, reflected on, or considered. Many do not realize that passage of this bill will mean that eventually people will no longer have the freedom to believe what they want without suffering legal consequences. There are numerous such cases in other states and countries. While the intent of the bill may be to ensure equality, in fact, it will ensure equality for one group. For many others it will be an infringement upon basic constitutional rights to freedom of religion and speech. Why should such a controversial bill that has the potential to radically change the fabric of our society and culture be rushed through in a Special Session? Both sides should be honored and respected, and adequate time should be given to truly enact a bill that ensures Equal Rights. I urge you to consider my testimony, and to vote "NO" on SB1. Respectfully yours, Erin Haynes

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Same-Sex Marriage: Not in the Best Interest of Children

(May / June 2009 issue of "The Therapist," a publication of the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists—CAMFT)

By Trayce Hansen, Ph.D.
www.drtraycehansen.com

As mental health professionals, it's our ethical and moral obligation to support policies that are in the best interest of those we serve, particularly those who are most vulnerable—namely, children. Same-sex marriage may be in the best interest of adult homosexuals who yearn for social and legal recognition of their unions, but it's not in the best interest of children.

Proponents of same-sex marriage believe love is all children really need. Based on that supposition, they conclude it's just as good for children to be raised by loving parents of the same sex, as by loving parents of the opposite sex. But that basic assumption—and all that flows from it—is naively simplistic and denies the complex nature and core needs of human beings.

According to decades of research, the ideal family structure for children is a two-parent, mother-father family.^(1,2,3) That research consistently shows that children raised in such families are more likely to thrive—psychologically, mentally, and physically—than children reared in any other kind of family configuration.

Extensive research also reveals that not only mothers, but also fathers, are critical to the healthy development of children. Swedish researchers reviewed the best longitudinal studies from around the world that assessed the effects of fathers on children's development. Their review spanned 20 years of studies and included over 22,000 children, and found that fathers reduce behavioral problems in boys and psychological problems in girls, enhance cognitive development, and decrease delinquency.⁽⁴⁾

It's clear that children benefit from having both a male and female parent. Recent medical research confirms genetically determined differences between men and women and those fundamental differences help explain why mothers and fathers bring unique characteristics to parenting that can't be replicated by the other sex. Mothers and fathers simply aren't interchangeable. Two women can both be good mothers, but neither can be a good father. One-sex parenting, whether by a single parent or a homosexual couple, deprives children of the full range of parenting offered by dual-sex couples.

Only mother-father families afford children the opportunity to develop relationships with a parent of the same, as well as the opposite sex. Relationships with both sexes early in life make it easier and more comfortable for a child to relate to both sexes later in life. Overall, having a relationship with both a male and female parent increases the likelihood that a child will have successful social and romantic relationships during his or her life.⁽⁵⁾

Moreover, existing research on children reared by homosexuals is not only scientifically flawed and extremely limited^(6,7,8) but some of it actually indicates that those children are at increased risk for a variety of negative outcomes.⁽⁶⁾ Other studies find that homosexually parented children are more likely to experiment sexually, experience sexual confusion, and engage in homosexual and bisexual behavior themselves.^(5,6,9) And for those children who later engage in non-heterosexual behavior, extensive research reveals they are more likely to suffer from psychiatric disorders, abuse alcohol and drugs,⁽¹⁰⁾ attempt suicide,⁽¹¹⁾ experience domestic violence and sexual assault,⁽¹²⁾ and are at increased risk for chronic diseases, AIDS, and shortened life spans.^(13,14,15)

It shouldn't be surprising that studies find children reared by homosexuals are more likely to engage in homosexual behavior themselves^(16,9,17) since extensive worldwide research reveals homosexuality is primarily environmentally induced. Specifically, social and/or family factors, as well as permissive environments which affirm homosexuality, play major environmental roles in the development of

homosexual behavior.^(18,19,20,21) There's no question that human sexuality is fluid and pliant.⁽²²⁾ Consider ancient Greece and Rome—among many early civilizations—where male homosexuality and bisexuality were nearly ubiquitous. That was not so because most of those men were born with a “gay gene,” rather because sexuality is malleable and socially influenced.

Same-sex marriage no doubt will increase sexual confusion and sexual experimentation by young people. The implicit and explicit message of same-sex marriage is that all choices are equally acceptable and desirable. So even children from traditional homes—influenced by the all-sexual-options-are-equal message—will grow up thinking it doesn't matter whom one relates to sexually or marries. Holding such a belief will lead some—if not many—young people to consider sexual and marital arrangements they never would have contemplated previously.

It also must be expected that if society permits same-sex marriage, it also will have to allow other types of non-traditional marriage. The legal logic is simple: If prohibiting same-sex marriage is discriminatory, then disallowing polygamous marriage, polyamorous marriage, or any other marital grouping also will be deemed discriminatory. In fact, such legal maneuverings have already begun. The emotional and psychological ramifications of these assorted arrangements on the developing psyches and sexuality of children would be disastrous.

To date, very little research exists that assesses long-term outcomes for homosexually parented children. According to Charlotte Patterson, a self-proclaimed, pro-same-sex-marriage researcher, there are only two longitudinal studies of children raised by lesbians.⁽²³⁾ And no long-term studies of children raised by homosexual men. A professional organization dedicated to the welfare of its patients cannot and should not support drastic change in social policy based on just two, small and non-representative longitudinal studies.

Certainly homosexual couples can be just as loving toward children as heterosexual couples, but children need more than love. They require the distinctive qualities and complementary natures of a male and female parent. The accumulated wisdom of over 5,000 years concludes that the ideal marital and parental configuration is composed of one man and one woman. This time-tested wisdom is now supported by the most advanced, scientifically sound research available.

Importantly, and to their credit, many self-proclaimed pro-same-sex-marriage researchers acknowledge that there is as of yet no definitive evidence as to the impact of homosexual parenting on children. Regardless, some of those advocates support same-sex marriage because they believe it offers a natural laboratory in which to assess the long-term impact on children.⁽²⁴⁾ That position is unconscionable and indefensible.

Same-sex marriage isn't in the best interest of children. While we may empathize with those homosexuals who long to be married and parent children, we mustn't allow our compassion for them to trump our compassion for children. In a contest between the desires of some homosexuals and the needs of all children, we cannot allow the children to lose.

CAMFT, like all mental health organizations, must base policy decisions on scientific evidence and research findings, not personal belief and political opinion. Most importantly, they must never allow children to be used as guinea pigs in unwise and potentially harmful social experiments.

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Dr. Trayce L. Hansen is a licensed psychologist with a clinical and forensic practice. She received her Ph.D. from the California School of Professional Psychology, San Diego, in 1997. Dr. Hansen's professional experiences are varied although she's particularly interested in the areas of marriage, parenting, male/female differences, and homosexuality. Dr. Hansen has extensively reviewed the literature in these areas and occasionally writes commentaries based on her findings that have been published worldwide.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: JDLWebTestimony
Cc: boydready@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 6:40:10 AM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/27/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Boyd Ready	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Dear Judiciary Committee: Your bill is misnamed -- it is not an equal right, but an additional right no one ever had before. Everyone has always had an equal right to marry -- that is, to cohabit as man and wife with the possibility of producing offspring. The additional 'right' you are proposing will create legal equality for unions that cannot possibly produce offspring. Future generations is what marriage is about, as well as the biological di-morphism of the human being. By introducing and enforced equality between what is not in fact equal you may have your way but you do not change the facts of life. Congratulating yourself on making the naturally unequal legally equal in all the rights, priveledges, responsibilities, and, you openly admit it -- chance to get Federal benefits -- is misguided. You are creating a grand social mess that our schools and courts and families and, most deplorably, our children, will have to be sorting out for decades. I urge you to vote no on creating these new rights.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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October 27, 2013

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Re: Bill #SB1
Hawaii State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Testimony in Opposition of Proposed Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013

I am writing in **opposition** to the proposed Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013 that will be discussed in your Special Legislative Session beginning on October 28, 2013.

The United States of America, of which Hawai'i is a part of, has always been a democratic government. It is concerting to me that the government running Hawaii is considering passing a law that will not only affect the entire state of Hawai'i but supports the desires of the minority. I have two major concerns regarding the proposed bill #SB1.

My first concern is that the bill will redefine the sanctity of marriage and demoralize society. If the purpose of this bill is to enable gay constitutes to receive benefits, which married couples receive, then give them these benefits and create another law for them along with another terminology besides calling it "marriage". **THE RIGHTS OF THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN GOD AND HIS COMMANDMENTS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED BY THE HAWAI'I GOVERNMENT AS EQUALLY IMPORTANT AS THE RIGHTS OF THOSE WHO DO NOT.** I firmly believe that our society is in rapid decay and it is for reasons such as this. I also firmly believe that calling the union between gay partners a marriage will enhance the detriment of our society in Hawaii. As an educator for the past thirteen years, I teach the whole child, which includes not only academics, but ethics and morals as well. I have been an active voter since the age of eighteen and I ask that you enable the voice of the people and **LET THE PEOPLE VOTE** on this issue.

My second concern is the right of religious freedom. The constitution of the United States of America, of which Hawaii is a part of, supports religious freedom. Courageous people seeking this very freedom created our country's heritage. I ask that this proposed law be rewritten so that **sufficient protections are put in place protecting the religious rights of our people.** I ask that religious organizations and businesses be exempted from this proposed law. For a religious organization to be expected to marry a gay couple would be against the very principles of that organization; it would infringe upon their beliefs. Such an organization could not morally obey the laws of the land when doing so will hold such an organization in contempt of GOD!

If you as the Leaders of our "Hawaiian Paradise" should elect to take this decision upon your shoulders, I ask that you do not infringe upon the rights of others in order to make some happy.

For these reasons, I humbly request that you **VOTE IN OPPOSITION** to Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013.

Sincerely,
Sonya M. Carvalho
2644 Ainaola Drive
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

October 27, 2013

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Re: Bill #SB1
Hawaii State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Testimony in Opposition of Proposed Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013

I am a citizen of the United States, born and raised in Hilo, Hawaii. I've lived here my whole life, I may only be 21 but I'm using my right to speak up. I am taking this opportunity to voice my concerns about the same-sex marriage bill that is being proposed at this time. I'm pleading with you to not only consider those who want this bill passed, but to consider what it will do if this bill gets passed.

We all have a right to have our freedom. But if this bill gets passed you'll take away our freedom. Since when does one groups' beliefs come more important than someone else's. To force someone to go against what they don't believe. Is that freedom? No, it is not. It's just like we pushing our values that a marriage should be between a man and a woman, but we don't push that fact on those who believe otherwise. That's because everyone has their agency, it's their right to choose. But if this bill gets passed you take away our right to choose. You take away the right of those who believe in the sanctity of marriage which is God's definition of marriage, and the right to religious freedom.

We as members of a religious organization, are taught to respect others beliefs. By enforcing someone to act against their religious beliefs is not respecting us as individuals. As a kid when you were forced to do something you did not want to do what happened? Usually one will rebel, because they feel trapped. I know those who are pushing for this bill to take place, are only concerned about their feelings; but where's the dignity and respect for those who don't believe the same way. You are in this political position because we voted for you. If you vote to pass this bill you will be taking away our freedom, and consequently how easy would be to take away more freedoms. Our forefathers believed in religious freedom. If you vote to pass this bill, you will be going against our constitution, which made us the country we are. History will repeat itself, and we will not be the nation we were meant to be.

Please don't let this bill pass, not because you agree or disagree in same-sex marriage, but because you respect everyone's freedom; including yours.

For these reasons, I humbly request that you **VOTE IN OPPOSITION** to Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013.

Sincerely,
Tari A. Carvalho
2644 Ainaola Drive
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

Carol Parker
PO Box 25714
Honolulu, HI 96825

October 26, 2013

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
The Honorable Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Hearing Date: Monday, October 28, 2013 at 10:30 am
I will be present to personally deliver my testimony.

Re: In **Opposition** to S.B. 1: The Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013

Dear Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

I am opposed to S.B.1, The Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013, because

1. It denies individual citizens their First Amendment right of freedom of religion, and ultimately also denies individual citizens the right of free speech and lawful assembly.
2. It is in utter opposition to the will of Hawaii voters who voted in 1998 to define marriage exclusively between a man and women in the Hawaii constitution. More than 250,000 Hawaii voters expressed their resolute position on the definition of marriage as exclusively between a man and women. The language “reserve marriage” indicates that the people of Hawaii recognize that the institute of marriage deserves and demands special consideration and criteria, one man and one woman exclusively.
3. It denies business owners their First Amendment right of freedom of religion and ultimately also denies individual citizens the right of free speech and lawful assembly.
4. It re-defines the most core institution of society, marriage without regard to the impact and consequences on Hawaii, society, the community, and individual rights.
5. It fails to protect churches, religious groups and temples from lawsuits. It fails to protect church-affiliated organizations (universities, hospitals, adoption agencies, housing agencies, etc.) from lawsuits. It fails to protect bishops, priests and other clergy members from lawsuits.
6. It is fast-tracked through a process that does not offer Neighbor Island individuals the opportunity to present testimony in person.
7. It appears to be the act of the State of Hawaii Executive Branch and the Legislature to put the ‘wants’ of non-residents of Hawaii over the needs and will of residents of the people of Hawaii and the registered voters of Hawaii.
8. It appears to be the act of a legislative body attempting to ignore the firmly expressed will of registered Hawaii voters and bypass the voters of Hawaii who have already voted on this issue.
9. It appears to be the first act of a legislative body being forced to pass legislation by an Executive Branch attempting to show its first step in showing its power over the people of Hawaii.
10. It excludes legislative representatives of some registered voters of Hawaii the process and opportunity to vote on the legislation. This violates the US Constitution guaranteed right for the people to be represented in the legislation process.

I urge you to vote **NO on S.B. 1**. Thank you for your time and leadership.

Sincerely,

Carol Parker
Registered Hawaii Voter

Charmaine Leilani Owen
P.O. Box 142
Hawi, HI 96719
(808) 987-9629
leilanihawaii@yahoo.com

October 18, 2013

House Speaker Representative Joseph M. Souki
House District 8
Hawaii State Capitol
Fax: 808-586-6101
repsouki@capitol.hawaii.gov

Re: Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013

Aloha,

My name is Charmaine Leilani Owen. This is my home and where my family and extended family reside. We are voters and are grateful for this privilege.

'Marriage between a man and a woman is the bedrock of society' and I am committed to strengthening traditional marriage between a man and a woman. I am opposed to same-sex marriage legalization (Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013) and to all the negative ramifications that come with it.

I remember my vote and the votes of residents of Hawaii deciding years ago to keep traditional marriage between a man and a woman. It is disempowering for a nation, a state, and any governing body to over rule such personal and collective power.

What kind of leadership would usurp such a fundamental right and collective choice that was decided upon? The adverse consequences of doing so has ramifications all its own. The consequences are grave.

Recently, in regards to Supreme Court marriage rulings, not only did California also vote and confirm that marriage is between a man and a woman, but now there is more concern. Many wonder if there is something fundamentally wrong when our government will not defend or protect a popular vote that reflects the views of a majority of their citizens. The effect of the ruling raises further complex issues, including but not limited to jurisdictional. There are real issues that need to be resolved as well as fundamental rights that not only same-sex marriage argue, but that those who are against same-sex marriage argue, who happen to be the majority here in Hawaii.

Please refrain from passing anything that would deny our rights, including religious freedoms. Study the issues at hand and do not be so quick to make a law before solving further issues that arise from such an act as the marriage equality act.

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
IN OPPOSITION OF SB1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

DATE OF HEARING: MON., OCTOBER 28, 2013
TIME: 10:30 A.M.
PLACE: AUDITORIUM, STATE CAPITOL

Dear Senator Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am strongly opposed to Senate Bill One. This legislation does not cover equality. The language appears to be vague and would harm religious organizations, small business owners, government employees, and judges whose religious beliefs are not that of the gay/lesbian community. Passage of this bill will affect the sanctity of marriage between one man and one woman.

I believe that SB1 does not represent the best interests of the majority of the people of Hawaii. Please do not allow this type of legislation to be passed.

Charlotte Y. Hee

Testimony Special Legislative hearing, same sex marriage. HB 1 and or SB 1.

Opposition, October 27th, 2013

From Tula and Cam Cavasso, Retired State Representative.

Dear Committee Chairmen and members,

We address our opposition to and ask you to vote against this bill for two key reasons.

Number one this bill attacks the freedom of faith, the freedom of religion, a fundamental right so important to our nations value system that it was specifically covered in our Bill of Rights by the very First Amendment to our US Constitution before ratification. "Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion, neither shall it deny the free exercise thereof". This bill has the effectual result of denying the free exercise of faith or religion by individuals, organizations, businesses, schools, churches, synagogues, or places of worship.

Number two, this bill as written has the secondary effect of reverse discrimination against those who by faith and religious written doctrine believe in specific sexual moral values and behavior respecting their families, parenting, relationships, home building, education, and daily practices in every aspect of life. This bill effectively grants or places into law a preferred "Civil Rights" status based on a moral or chosen behavior lifestyle to the exclusion of other moral lifestyles beliefs and values, far beyond the immutable characteristics of regular civil rights protections such as for race, gender or national origin which are based not on action or morality, but on birth.

Commented [CC1]:

Proponents of this bill claim the religious exclusion or exemptions will protect people of faith and religious values, practices and churches. This claim of protection is untrue.

The so called religious protection clauses neither effectively protects religious free speech and lifestyle nor does it protect their freedom of assembly in religious social settings or churches.

This bill as proposed will effectively serve to quell free speech and assembly based on the moral values relating to sexuality, marriage, family and every other aspect of our Hawaii community. The chairman of the Hawaii Civil Rights commission has already publicly expressed sentiments making it clear that if this bill is passed into law that he will use it drag into court by lawsuit, individuals, business people and leaders of assemblies, pitting them against the financial and intimidating power of the State. In other words it is apparent that this bill, if passed, will be used to quell free religious speech.

The subject, wording and ramifications of this bill need much greater study both of impact and long term ramifications including its unintended consequence in all aspects of our community.

We have addressed only two of many reasons to recommit this bill for reconsideration in the Regular Session beginning in January for the much more detailed study of the current and future consequences it deserves. Please do not rush this highly emotional and complicated subject to half considered action.

We respectfully ask you to you hold this bill.

Kari L. Taylor
3724 Mariposa Drive
Honolulu, HI 96816

October 25, 2013

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
The Honorable Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Hearing Date: Monday, October 28, 2013 at 10:30 am

Re: In **Opposition** to S.B. 1: *The Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013*

Dear Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

I am **OPPOSED** to S.B.1, The Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013.

There are many aspects of this bill that extremely concern me.

- 1) It re-defines the most core institution of society, marriage.
- 2) It is in utter opposition to the will of Hawaii voters who voted in 1998 to define marriage exclusively between a man and women in the Hawaii constitution. More than 250,000 Hawaii voters expressed their resolute position on the definition of marriage as exclusively between a man and women. The language "reserve marriage" indicates that the people of Hawaii recognize that the institute of marriage deserves and demands special consideration and criteria, one man and one woman exclusively.
- 3) It fails to protect churches, religious groups and temples from lawsuits.
- 4) It fails to protect bishops, priests and other clergy members from lawsuits.
- 5) It denies individual citizens their First Amendment right of freedom of religion.
- 6) It fails to protect church-affiliated organizations (universities, hospitals, adoption agencies, housing agencies, etc.) from lawsuits.
- 7) It denies business owners their First Amendment right of freedom of religion.

I strongly urge you to vote **NO** on S.B. 1. Thank you for your time and leadership.

Sincerely,



Kari L. Taylor
Hawaii Voter

October 27, 2013

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Re: Bill #SB1
Hawaii State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Testimony in Opposition of Proposed Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013

I am writing in **opposition** to the proposed Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013 that will be discussed in your Special Legislative Session beginning on October 28, 2013.

Redefining marriage not only affects the estimated 5% of Hawai'i residents who identify themselves as Gay or Lesbian, but will change society forever for the other 95% of Hawai'i residents. Changing the definition of marriage is changing the morals of our society. As our school system is the means to educate our children on the laws and morals of our Society, passing this bill will also greatly affect the curriculum taught to all of our children. This is something that should be decided by the people, and not by a handful of politicians. If the majority of our people feel that having a Gay or Lesbian marriage is an acceptable alternative to heterosexual marriage, then so be it. But **LET THE PEOPLE VOTE!**

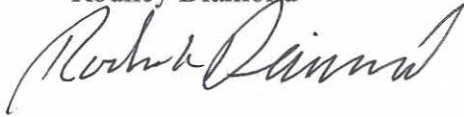
If perhaps the majority of people in Hawai'i do feel that they would like Same-sex marriage to be deemed as an acceptable alternative to heterosexual marriage then it would be important that **sufficient protections are put in place so that the religious rights of our people are not infringed upon.** Religious Freedom is one of the founding principles of our country. It is not uncommon knowledge that the bible teaches that Gay and Lesbian relationships are against the laws of God. It is not a new radical philosophy but a moral principle that has been in place for thousands of years. It is a principle that even our founding forefathers believed in. Although society is changing, the bible has not changed, and many people still uphold the principles in the bible. It is their religious right to do so. To require any religious leader, organization, small business or individual to provide goods or services that assist or promote the solemnization or celebration of any marriage, or provide counseling or other services that directly facilitate the perpetuation of any marriage that is against their religious beliefs would be infringing on their religious rights.

For these reasons, I humbly request that you **VOTE IN OPPOSITION** to Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013.

I want to keep my religious freedoms don't you?

Sincerely,

Rodney Diamond

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rodney Diamond". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the printed name.

HCR 3 Box 14073
Keaau, HI 96749

October 27, 2013

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Re: Bill #SB1
Hawaii State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Testimony in Opposition of Proposed Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013

I am writing in **opposition** to the proposed Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013 that will be discussed in your Special Legislative Session beginning on October 28, 2013.

Redefining marriage not only affects the estimated 5% of Hawai'i residents who identify themselves as Gay or Lesbian, but will change society forever for the other 95% of Hawai'i residents. Changing the definition of marriage is changing the morals of our society. As our school system is the means to educate our children on the laws and morals of our Society, passing this bill will also greatly affect the curriculum taught to all of our children. This is something that should be decided by the people, and not by a handful of politicians. If the majority of our people feel that having a Gay or Lesbian marriage is an acceptable alternative to heterosexual marriage, then so be it. But **LET THE PEOPLE VOTE!**

If perhaps the majority of people in Hawai'i do feel that they would like Same-sex marriage to be deemed as an acceptable alternative to heterosexual marriage then it would be important that **sufficient protections are put in place so that the religious rights of our people are not infringed upon.** Religious Freedom is one of the founding principles of our country. It is not uncommon knowledge that the bible teaches that Gay and Lesbian relationships are against the laws of God. It is not a new radical philosophy but a moral principle that has been in place for thousands of years. It is a principle that even our founding forefathers believed in. Although society is changing, the bible has not changed, and many people still uphold the principles in the bible. It is their religious right to do so. To require any religious leader, organization, small business or individual to provide goods or services that assist or promote the solemnization or celebration of any marriage, or provide counseling or other services that directly facilitate the perpetuation of any marriage that is against their religious beliefs would be infringing on their religious rights.

For these reasons, I humbly request that you **VOTE IN OPPOSITION** to Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013.

I want to keep my religious freedoms don't you?

Sincerely,

Lorrie Diamond

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lorrie Diamond". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the printed name.

HCR 3 Box 14073
Keaau, HI 96749

From: Ana Barrientos-Perez
858 6thave
Honolulu hi, 96816
(808) 206-5061

Senator
Ihara , Les Jr. (D)
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 220
Phone 808-586-6250
Fax 808-586-6251
E-Mail: senihara@capitol.hawaii.g

S District 10
Kaimuki, Kapahulu,
Palolo, Maunalani
Heights, St. Louis
Heights, Mo'ili'ili,
Ala Wai

Subject: Opposition SB1, JDL Testimony at The Capitol

Dear Honorable Les Ihara and Members of the committee Maile Shimabukuro,
Mike Grabbard, Brickwood Galuteria, MalamaSolomon, Sam Slom

As a constituent of District **10**, I would like to take this opportunity to inform you that I am opposed to SB1 The Marriage equality Act. As a voter in the district you represent, I feel that it is important for you to know how I feel about this as part of your decision making process.

I believe that the public should vote on the issue of Same Sex Marriage on just as we did back in 1998, when the majority of citizens in the State of Hawaii voted to approve marriage between a man and a woman. The needs to be informed of any legal issues that will affect our lives and we need to be given time to discuss these issues, not the way Governor Abercrombie is acting now.

The use of a special session limits my opportunity to voice my opinion on this issue and may result in legislation that does not represent the will of the people you have been elected to represent. This Special Session does not warrant enough time to address detrimental consequences to family unity, confusion to promiscuity to young adolescents, a born nature, which in the 21 century there is no DNA, blood test this is an inherited or biological born behavior not proven ever. This SB1 must put in the ballot for citizens to make a decision.

In closing, I greatly appreciate your representation of the constituents of District # **10**. Again, I am asserting my opposition to same sex marriage, request be given enough time to be to discuss issues so it could be given on the ballot for the people to vote. I am praying that God will continue to lead you in all of your decision-making and that HE will continue to encourage you in all that you do.

God Bless,

Ana Barrientos-Perez.

Valerie Meli
3946 Pahoia Avenue
Honolulu, Hawaii

October 25, 2013

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
The Honorable Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Hearing Date: Monday, October 28, 2013 at 10:30 am
I will be present to personally deliver my testimony.

*Re: In **Opposition** to S.B. 1: The Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013*

Dear Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

I am opposed to S.B.1, The Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013, because it first denies individual citizens their First Amendment right of freedom of religion.

Also, it extends parentage rights that would transfer Native Hawaiian ethnicity to non-Native Hawaiian individuals.

I cannot believe that I have to write this letter when I was already voted against this in 1998. The people of Hawaii already made it clear that marriage is defined between a man and a woman.

I humbly ask you to vote NO on S.B. 1. Thank you for your time and leadership.

Sincerely,

Valerie Meli
Hawaii Voter

Michael S Meli
3946 Paho Avenue
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816

October 25, 2013

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
The Honorable Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Hearing Date: Monday, October 28, 2013 at 10:30 am
I will be present to personally deliver my testimony.

*Re: In **Opposition** to S.B. 1: The Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013*

Dear Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

I am opposed to S.B.1, The Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013, because it re-defines the most core institution of society, marriage. In 1998, I took part if fighting hard for what I believe in and teach to my own children. The people of Hawaii too made a bold statement that marriage is between a man and woman.

This bill fails to protect churches, religious groups and temples from lawsuits.

I cannot comprehend how this special session comes about when there are so many problems that will occur if it passes.

I ask you to vote NO on S.B. 1. Thank you for your time and leadership.

Sincerely,

Michael S. Meli

Claire Manutai
3946 Pahoia Avenue
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816

October 25, 2013

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
The Honorable Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Hearing Date: Monday, October 28, 2013 at 10:30 am
I will be present to personally deliver my testimony.

Re: In Opposition to S.B. 1: The Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013

Dear Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

I am opposed to S.B.1, The Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013, because it re-defines the most core institution of society, marriage. In 1998, I took part in fighting hard for what I believe in and teach to my own children. The people of Hawaii too made a bold statement that marriage is between a man and woman.

This bill fails to protect churches, religious groups and temples from lawsuits.

I cannot comprehend how this special session comes about when there are so many problems that will occur if it passes.

It will introduce new educational curriculum for K-12 grades that will present same sex marriages and relationships to school children and youth. As a DOE teacher, this goes against all that I stand for and believe.

I ask you to vote NO on S.B. 1. Thank you for your time and leadership.

Sincerely,

Claire Manutai

My name is **Daniel Ravia** and I live in the town of Laie, Hawaii. I am testifying on Senate Bill 1. In regards to this bill, I would like to testify in opposition to Senate Bill 1.

I am opposed to Senate Bill 1 because of the inadequate protections it establishes for religious institutions. As a very devout member of my religion, I feel very passionately that our buildings, meetinghouses, and places of worship be used only for purposes that directly align with our religious beliefs. I feel that is is unconstitutional and unlawful to force any religious group to serve, accommodate, or celebrate those marriages that go against what their church teaches and practices. Senate Bill 1 would take away my rights to freedom of religion as our founding fathers intended them to be.

Again, I would like to reiterate that I am AGAINST Senate Bill one, and that I firmly oppose its passing into state legislature.

Thank you,

Daniel Ravia

Cherie Kapololu
1572 Monte St.
Honolulu, HI 96819
ckapololu@gmail.com

Committee on Judicial and Labor SB 1 - October 28, 2013 at 10:30 AM.

Subject: Special Session on Same-Gender Marriage

Dear Senator Donna Mercado Kim:

Thank you for your commitment to serve and represent the people of our District. I truly appreciate that you have committed yourself to such an important calling in life. As my Senator, I ask you to consider and make known among your peers my position on a very important issue. I urge you to vote "no" to legalizing same-gender marriage during the special legislative session that has been called by Governor Abercrombie on October 28, 2013.

My primary concern is the inherent risk that the law would have on my First Amendment rights, to express my freedom of religion, as well as the impact that it would likely have on my church community and other religious organizations. The bill currently features language intended to provide religious exemptions to protect churches from being forced to perform same-gender marriages that are in direct conflict with their beliefs. However, the religious exemptions will not protect all churches in Hawaii. Further, if forced, it can lead to lengthy and costly lawsuits that could lead some churches to eventually close down due to financial costs. This would end important community programs that help feed the hungry and provide a wide range of support to Hawaii residents in need.

Personally, I also stand to lose the right to express my religious views on traditional marriage between one man and one woman, whether in the workplace or in public, just as others are able to express their differing views.

I believe that this decision is one that should be made by the people of the State of Hawaii, as was done in 1998 when it was voted on as a constitutional amendment. I strongly feel that this special session of the legislature does not provide an adequate opportunity for people to voice their opinions. However, if the people of Hawaii will not be given the opportunity to vote on this issue, I ask you to appeal to your fellow lawmakers to take the time necessary to revise this bill in order to ensure that no one will lose their existing right to express their religious beliefs as originally granted to all Americans.

I trust that you will ensure that these concerns are heard during the special session.

Thank you so much for your careful consideration of this matter.

Yours truly,

Cherie Kapololu

October 25, 2013

Ju Frigillana

Pastor of Inspire Church

94-406 Keaopua St #48A

Mililani, Hi 96789

Re: OPPOSITION TO SB I RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

Thank you so much for taking the time to read this. Knowing that my voice is being heard in this very important matter brings me reassurance, but at the same time the people's voice in Hawaii that are not heard due to this special session is very disturbing.

I believe that the people should be allowed to decide on this issue of marriage and I am pleading with you to support equality for all including the rights of conscience and religious freedom, which I ask you to respect as our elected leaders.

Please give this bill the due process it needs in a regular session where it can properly be vetted and examined as all other bills. Your "yes" vote in special session is clearly a NO vote to democracy.

Thank you once again for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely yours,

Ju Frigillana

Mililani, Hi 96789

Sincerely yours,

Written Testimony Regarding SB 1
Relating to Equal Rights

To: The Committee on Judiciary and Labor

My name is Stuart Shigemitsu. In 2009, I inquired of then Senator Russell Kokubun what his stance was regarding HB 444 relating to civil unions. I have copied our email correspondence below to demonstrate that my concerns voiced over four years have now been realized as the Hawaii Legislature stands on the cusp of legalizing same sex marriage in our State. Despite Senator Kokubun's assurance that the legalization of civil unions would not change "the definition or character of traditional marriage" the passage of time has invalidated Senator Kokobun's claim. Governor Abercrombie signed civil unions into law in 2011 and now with this special session of the State Legislature, the definition or character of traditional marriage is most definitely in jeopardy.

Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2009 2:06:01 PM

Subject: HB 444

Mahalo for taking the time to submit your comments regarding House Bill 444, the pending civil union bill that is now under consideration in the State Legislature. Hawai'i has a history of recognizing personal and cultural differences. This is not about gay rights; it is about civil rights, and our community's respect for the lives and beliefs of others. Civil unions convey those rights and duties without changing the definition or character of traditional marriage. It is my understanding that civil unions are not marriage. They will extend a basic social and legal right to a new group of individuals without altering or diminishing what we now think of as marriage. It has been a guiding principle of our community to respect individuals' differences. In matters of religion, culture and lifestyle, Hawai'i has stood as one of the most welcoming and tolerant places in our nation. I will keep an open mind with respect to any and all input. I truly appreciate your efforts to communicate your thoughts and opinions on this critical issue.

Mahalo,

Senator Russell Kokubun

Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2009 11:32:41 PM

Subject: Re: HB 444

To Sen. Russell Kokubun

Feb 24, 2009

Dear Senator Kokubun,

I have not written any correspondence to a politician in over 15 years as I feel that politicians in general tend to disregard public input, especially pertaining to those issues on which they have already taken a firm stand. Nonetheless, I find it necessary to write to you due to my concern regarding HB 444. As you well know in 1998, by almost a 70% majority, the people of Hawaii (myself included) voted to amend the State's constitution allowing the legislature to ban same-sex marriages in Hawaii. I see this piece of legislation as an attempt to circumvent the will of the people & legislatively dictate what gay rights proponents could not accomplish 10 years ago. It is disturbing to me that the legislature and in other instances the judiciary, have taken it upon themselves to usurp the expressed will of the people. I do not have any ill-will against gay people, but rather, with all due respect, I take issue with your statement that "civil unions convey those rights and duties without changing the definition or character of traditional marriage." I do not believe that you can separate the two, as the former will always

impact the latter. Case in point, the bellwether State of California. Back in 1999, California enacted a domestic partnership registry which initially allowed only hospital visitation privileges to gay couples but was later expanded to allow many of the same rights as married couples. Later on in 2000, the residents of California voted in favor of Proposition 22 which by statute defined marriage as between a man & a woman. Despite this law, the mayor of San Francisco in 2004, began allowing same-sex marriages in his city which subsequently led to the California Supreme Court striking down Prop. 22. Just last year, the California voters again voiced their opinion on same-sex marriages by voting for Proposition 8 which constitutionally defines marriage as being only between a man & a woman. The subsequent backlash in the gay community was vociferous & widespread, resulting in multiple ongoing lawsuits to undo Prop. 8. My point in documenting the preceding is to simply state that the slippery slope of civil unions leading to marriage between gay couples in Hawaii is a sure one & will become inevitable should HB 444 be approved in the Senate. The history of this debate in California has made it evident that the plea for basic "civil rights" will not satisfy those in the gay community until gay couples are allowed to marry & then I am afraid that the "definition & character" of traditional marriage will be forever altered. I firmly believe in tolerance & respect for all, but not at the expense of traditional marriage. I therefore urge you to act accordingly.

Sincerely,
Stuart Shigemitsu

To senkokubun@capitol.hawaii.gov

Mar 24, 2009

Dear Senator Kokubun:

Since this piece of legislation is still very much alive in the legislature, could you please take the time to respond to my response regarding your position of HB 444? Frankly, I don't know how one can absolutely claim that traditional marriage will in no way be affected as detailed in my response below. I would be interested in hearing your response.

Thank you kindly,
Stuart Shigemitsu

Unfortunately, I received no further response from Senator Kokubun. Fast-forward only a few short years and the citizens of our State now find ourselves in the exact position that I predicted would happen if civil unions were made legal by our chosen political representatives.

A few years ago, sexual orientation used to be referred to as sexual preference. This distinction in terms is significant because the two terms denote significant differences in the manner by which sexuality develops. A preference is something that is chosen, whereas orientation is merely something that defines us. The differences are potentially important regarding how the law applies to those who are gay. If homosexuality does not stem from personal choice but is a biologically-determined characteristic over which we have no choice, then laws should not treat gays and straights differently since homosexuality would be equivalent to one's race, over which we have no control. Conversely, if being gay is indeed the result of choice and not biologically or genetically determined, then granting marriage rights based upon personal choice is inherently problematic. Pertinent questions arise such as who has the authority to define marriage – the citizens or the legislature? If the legal right to marry is granted to gays then should not the right to marry be given to those who practice polygamy as well? After all, we should not discriminate against polygamists should we? If gays are granted the right to marry others of the same sex, is it not logically consistent to also allow others to marry multiple partners, if they so

choose? Where do we draw the line concerning defining marriage and who draws that line? Moral relativism is the real issue here. We are confronted by it and cannot evade the dilemma of the morally slippery slope.

Despite much research, there is no empirical evidence that homosexuality is genetically based. In fact this evidence points to the opposite. Outlined below is a partial summary by Dr. Neil Whitehead of more than 20 years of scientific research into homosexuality. It draws on more than 10,000 scientific papers and publications from all sides of the debate. His findings regarding same-sex attraction versus opposite-sex attraction reveal the following:

Change

The huge amount of change in sexual orientation is one of the clearest evidences that homosexuality is not hard-wired by genes or anything in the biological environment.

Large studies now show that:

For adults:

About half of those with exclusive SSA move towards heterosexuality over a lifetime. Put another way, 3% of the practising heterosexual population (both men and women) claim to have once been either bisexual or homosexual.

These changes are not therapeutically induced, but happen “naturally” in life, some very quickly.

Most changes in sexual orientation are towards exclusive heterosexuality.

Numbers of people who have changed towards exclusive OSA are greater than current numbers of bisexuals and exclusive SSA people combined. In other words, “Ex-gays outnumber actual gays.”

Exclusive OSA is 17 times as stable as exclusive SSA for men, and 30 times as stable as exclusive SSA for women. (Women move about more in their sexual orientation than men.)

For adolescents:

Most teenagers will change from SSA. In fact, in the 16 to 17 year age group, 98% will move from homosexuality and bisexuality towards heterosexuality.

16 year olds saying they are SSA or Bi-attracted are 25 times more likely to say they are opposite sex attracted at the age of 17 than those with a heterosexual orientation are likely to identify themselves as bi-sexual or homosexual.

16-year olds who claim they are opposite sex attracted will overwhelmingly remain that way.

Genes

Twin Studies:

These very complex comparisons of identical twins and non-identical twins definitively rule out genetic determinism. Identical twins with identical genes are about 11-14% concordant for SSA. If homosexuality were “genetic,” identical co-twins of homosexual men and women would also be homosexual 100% of the time. In classic twin studies the genetic fraction is less than 23% for men and 37% for women, and may be as low as 10%. Twin studies continue to find steadily lower genetic input into homosexuality as methodology improves and samples become larger. Everyone has at least a 10% genetic influence in their behaviour— because without genes there can be no human behaviour of any kind. Twin studies show that individualistic reactions to chance events (in which one identical twin

reacts differently from the other) are by far the strongest contributors to homosexuality. In other words personal individual reactions to random events are a strong factor.

Other

A scan of the whole genome has not found any homosexual genes, unlike the case for schizophrenia (which has still only identified 4 genes linked to 3% of schizophrenia.)

From an understanding of gene structure and function there are no plausible means by which genes could dictate SSA (or other behaviours) in a person.

So far, genetically dictated behaviours of the “one-gene-one-trait” variety have been found only in very simple organisms. Generally, geneticists agree that many genes (from at least five or six to many-hundreds) contribute to any particular human behaviour.

Any genetic influence is believed to be weak and indirect.

No genetically determined human behaviour has yet been found. The most closely genetically-related behaviour yet discovered (mono-amine oxidase deficiency leading to aggression) has shown itself remarkably re-sponsive to counselling.

A genetically dominated SSA caused by a cluster of genes could not suddenly appear and disappear in families, as it does. It would persist through every generation for many generations. It is genetically implausible that many “heterosexual” genes could switch off at the same time.

The human race shares most of its genes—something between 99.7% and 99.9%. That means all ethnic groups will have most of them. This has three implications.

If homosexuality is genetically dictated, homosexual practices will be identical or very similar in all cultures. But the enormous range and diversity of homosexual practice and customs in different cultures (and within cultures), argues against this.

There would be a similar percentage of homosexuality in all cultures. But homosexuality has been unknown in some cultures and mandatory in others.

Changes in homosexual practice and behaviour in different cultures would take place very slowly, over many centuries. But this is not what history shows. (The decline of whole models of homosexuality (the Greek, over a couple of centuries, and the Melanesian, within a century); the relatively sudden (in genetic terms) emergence of the present Western model over a couple of centuries; and abrupt changes of practice within an ethnic group, even over a single generation, are not consistent with anything genetic. Even less so the swiftly changing sexual practices within the current Western model.)

The occurrence of SSA in the population is too frequent to be caused by a faulty pre-natal developmental process, so it is not innate in that sense either. This includes epigenetic processes. If SSA were genetically determined, and led to same-sex contact only it would have bred itself out of the population in only several generations. It would not exist today. The age of first same-sex attraction could be about 10% genetically influenced and opposite sex attraction about 15%. (Remember, everyone has a 10% genetic input into anything they think or do.) First attractions (both SSA and OSA) occur on average at age 10 and are rarely “earliest memories,” meaning attraction is mostly socially induced.

According to Dr. Whitehead, “At best genetics is a minor factor.” Because identical twins are always genetically identical, homosexuality cannot be genetically dictated. “No-one is born gay,” he notes. “The predominant things that create homosexuality in one identical twin and not in the other have to be post-birth factors.” Dr. Whitehead believes same-sex attraction (SSA) is caused by “non-shared factors,” things happening to one twin but not the other, or a personal response to an event by one of the twins and not the other. The complete summary and further details can be found at:

<http://www.mygenes.co.nz/summary.htm>

Based on the above I think it would be a grievous mistake to redefine the definition of marriage without any empirical evidence to support such an action.

Lastly, allow me to make the argument from the personal standpoint. As parents do you wish and hope that one day your own children will grow up and marry someone else of the same sex? Or, do you wish and hope that your child will marry someone of the opposite sex and perhaps have grandchildren in the future. I submit that most parents would prefer the later outcome for their children. Redefining traditional marriage in our State would certainly affect that outcome as children would then be taught in the public arena that same sex relationships are acceptable since there is no difference between SSA and OSA. The inculcation of the gay lifestyle as being acceptable among our children is already taking place as evidenced most recently in New York where the IFC Center announce that it will admit minors to see the NC-17 rated movie Blue Is The Warmest Color which is a story about lesbianism.

No matter from which angle you view this piece of legislation, it all boils down to a question of morality. Therefore, I urge you to do the right thing and reject SB 1.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony.

Stuart Shigemitsu

Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Submitted by: Barbara O’Nale 92-6048 Kohi St, Kapolei, HI 96707

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am opposed to this bill because it is circumventing the normal process a bill should go through.

It is my understanding that the legislature did not have the votes to call a special session. The Governor would not have called a special session if this was not a political agenda he wanted to push. The Democrat Party of Hawaii investigative panel has already shown its bias by recommending reprimand for Sen. Gabbard and for Rep. Har to be censured for introducing a constitutional amendment on traditional marriage. The panel concluded that the party has a First Amendment right of free association to enforce its membership requirements, and that “they violated the membership requirements of the DPH to the extent that sanctions may be applied to them that affect their membership in the organization.... Sen Gabbard was censured in 2009 for violating the platform on equal rights by actively working against a civil-unions bill.” (Honolulu Star-Advertiser 26 July 2013) With Free Speech Week occurring just last week, it is a reminder of how appalling it is that activists have been allowed to elevate a party platform at the expense of the Constitutional Amendment of free speech to express an opposing view, especially when affecting representation of constituents. Richard Borreca in his column on 25 October 2013 in the Honolulu Star-Advertiser states, “Legislators say they are all plowing through a deluge of emails and a constant hum of phone calls, mostly from members of the public opposed.” If this is true, is political pressure from threat of censorship and standing in the Democrat Party exerting more influence on a legislator’s vote than the view of the constituents who elected them? As this could be any contentious issue, a no vote on this bill in special session would show respect for the normal democratic process of passing a bill and give citizens the confidence that elected officials are not succumbing to political pressure from threats by activists instead of representing them. A yes vote validates this circumventing of the process for activists to use in the future to push an agenda that failed during the regular legislative session.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara O’Nale

First of all, I am opposed to this special session on Same-Sex Marriage (to be referred to as SSM). I would like to see this session suspended immediately on the following grounds:

1. There is no legitimate reason for a special session on SSM. A decision on this issue is not mandated by the U.S. Supreme Court nor is there any deadline for such a legislation to be made. It appears that this issue is being rushed and manipulated for political, and possibly personal gain.
2. It is an erroneous step to rush into a decision on an issue that will have such an immense impact and consequence on the future of the islands and its people. This is a decision that will affect the future of our state like no other decision. It will have social, economic, and political impacts that will profoundly affect the future generations of our state, but impacts that I believe will be negative and subversive in nature.

Secondly, it is my firm belief that the issue of SSM should be addressed directly by the people. This issue should be presented before the people as a constitutional amendment on the next election ballot for the following reasons:

1. A constitutional amendment on the next election ballot will allow every voice to be heard fairly.
2. The constitutional amendment that allows the legislature to decide on the issue of marriage is over 10 years old. Keep in mind that a census is taken every 10 years to account for changes in district representation. As population shifts over time, so do attitudes and beliefs on issues. It is time for the people to be heard from again.

If this special session should proceed on this issue, please vote AGAINST this bill to legalize SSM and let the people decide.

Sincerely,

Spike Tanaka

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hearing Date/Time: Monday, October 28, 2013, 10:30 a.m.
Place: Capitol Auditorium
Re: Strong Opposition of SB1

Dear Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I strongly oppose Bill SB1. Why?

(1) It has serious violations of religious rights. The governor's bill was hastily written, and he has already amended it once. That is witness enough it needs more discussion and refining, which is the responsibility of the legislature.

(2) It violates many federal and state granted constitutional rights. I agree that everyone should be treated equally under the law. However, the Governor and AG's Marriage Equality Bill violates religious First Amendment rights to a clear majority of the people of the state of Hawaii. It clearly violates Section 4 of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii.

(3) The granted exceptions and exemptions for religious groups are too weak and too restrictive. All religions that define marriage as the union of a male and a female, must be exempted permanently and forever from having to perform a civil union. (This freedom is constitutionally guaranteed under our First Amendment rights.) "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." If our exercise (which it is) is to only recognize marriage as the union of a male and a female, our clergy can never be forced to perform a civil union or to unite two members of the same sex in a formal legally recognized family relationship without violating their First Amendment rights. This is where we must insist that the State of Hawaii CANNOT under any circumstance dictate our religious ceremonies or activities, or enact or create any law that restricts our constitutional freedoms.

Small businesses also must not be forced to support civil unions when it runs against their religious beliefs, even if they offer services to the public. Again, that is a clear First Amendment violation. It frankly would also minimally be a clear violation of the 14th Amendment, Section 1.

Allow the people to decide on the issue of marriage. The legislature appears to be going against the will of the people the way votes are aligned. Again, I support equality for all including the rights of conscience and religious freedom, which I ask you to respect as our elected leaders.

It is foolish that the most contentious social issue in our history would be decided in one week. Uphold the principles of democracy and the democratic process which are being disregarded in this special session, and allow the people to vote.

Any bill on this subject should be given due process during the regular session where it can properly be vetted and examined as is done with all other bills. The people who elected you to serve as their voices should have a say in public policy that will forever obliterate thousand of years of indigenous and non-native culture, customs and traditions. Any "yes" vote in special session is a NO vote to democracy and to equal rights for everyone!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Colin White
Honolulu, HI 96819

October 27, 2013

Hawaii State Capitol

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair

Reference: SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

Date: Monday, October 28, 2013

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Written Testimony

Dear Sir:

I am a parent who is not related to any organization but I am deeply concerned that the passing of this bill will bring future ramifications and divide this island even more than it already is. I find it hard to understand why the legislature would have a special session to rush this bill through.

This is not an equal rights issue, just disguised as one. Many of us believed that when the civil union bill was passed that the issue of spousal rights was addressed. I sat in the hearing and heard testimony after testimony that they (same sex couples) did want marriage, so to speak, but the rights that went with marriage and the Civil Union Bill was passed.

My concern is that if this bill is passed that it will be mandated that homosexuality be taught at all grade levels starting from kindergarten. I do not want Hawaii to mirror Massachusetts where a father can be arrested and taken away in handcuffs simply because he wanted to exercise his parental right not to have his child taught that which he does not believe to be right.

No one can say that same sex couples are denied the right to vote, the right to enter into a restaurant of their choice, the right to rent a home or any of that.

The people of Hawaii are not without prejudice, but dare I say we are far more tolerant than that of our mainland counterparts.

We are logistically isolated and therefore have learned to live with one another for the most part in harmony.

Why are we allowing special interest groups from the outside to influence our island traditions and alter our Hawaiian lifestyle?

I humbly ask that those who were placed in office to hear the voice of the people, LISTEN!

The passing of this bill will deeply divide the islands and your constituents.

Respectfully,
Jade Richardson

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLWebTestimony](#)
Cc: cjwahine1@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 10:08:59 PM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/27/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Christie Jennings	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I believe in the sanctity of marriage solely between a man and a woman. I do not support same sex marriage. By not supporting this bill, I am supporting religious freedom and equality. Mahalo.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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To: Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hearing Date/Time: Monday, October 28, 2013, 10:30 a.m.
Place: Capitol Auditorium
Re: Strong Opposition of SB1

Dear Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am strong oppose to Senate Bill 1 and I feel that the religious exemptions are not adequate to protect individuals, religious organizations, and their affiliates. While I believed in equal rights, there is nothing equal about this bill. Same sex couples already receive all of their state benefits through the Civil Union Law and have access to their federal benefits through the recent Supreme Court ruling. Meanwhile, this bill will negatively impact individuals, religious organizations and their affiliates. Just because the public accommodation section was deleted from the final version of the bill, it does not mean that religious organizations and their affiliates are not subject to the public accommodations law. An entire state department does not just disappear overnight. Hawaii Civil Rights Commission will still enforce the public accommodations laws and with no protection written into our current bills, many religious organizations and their affiliates will be left vulnerable. Washington, a very liberal state, has explicitly stated in their laws that even if a religious organization is considered to be a public accommodation, they still cannot be sued. In addition, this bill violates our First Amendment rights, the freedom of religion. As a basic constitutional right, everyone should have the right to believe and practice what they believe in. They should not be forced to participate in anything goes against their religious beliefs. Our society is a very litigious society and this bill does not provide sufficient religious protections.

I also do not support this bill and do not believe that we should have a special session for several different reasons. The governor should not be calling a special session for a bill that did not receive a single hearing during regular session. This bill was ignored during regular session but now we are having a special session that will cost tax payers thousand of dollars?! The governor should also not have been contributing to the writing bills because it is outside of his branch of government. The legislative branch writes and passes bills, the executive branch enforces laws, and the judiciary branch interprets laws. The special session is limited to the least amount of days to hear the least amount of people. There will be no hearings held on the neighbor islands even though this bill will affect them too. Testimonies will be limited to two minutes per a person. Lastly, the bill wasn't released until five days before the special session starts. An entire section on religious exemptions that was completed replaced, leaving the public less than a week to analyze the bill.

This bill will affect so many individuals, religious organizations and their affiliates, businesses, non profits, education, and so forth. ONE WEEK IS TOO SHORT to even begin to understand and analyze the bill. feel like the legislators are shoving this bill through the special session without any regard for the people that voted them into office. This bill does not represent the will of the people and will negatively impact Hawaii.

Again, I am in strong opposition to SB 1 and urge you to vote NO to this bill..

Annora Ng

Kivette Akagi
91-1032 Ama'ama Street
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

October 25, 2013

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
The Honorable Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Hearing Date: Monday, October 28, 2013 at 10:30 am

Re: In **Opposition** to S.B. 1: *The Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013*

Dear Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

I am opposed to S.B.1, The Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013, because It denies individual citizens their First Amendment right of freedom of religion. It denies business owners their First Amendment right of freedom of religion. It fails to protect bishops, priests and other clergy members from lawsuits. It fails to protect churches, religious groups and temples from lawsuits. It fails to protect church-affiliated organizations (universities, hospitals, adoption agencies, housing agencies, etc.) from lawsuits. The bill extends parentage rights that would transfer Native Hawaiian ethnicity to non-Native Hawaiian individuals. It provides that same-sex couples married in the State, but who do not live in Hawaii, the right to return to Hawaii courts for divorce, annulment and separation proceedings. Hawaii taxpayers will be paying for these costs, when our state is already in deficit already.

It will introduce new educational curriculum for K-12 grades that will present same-sex marriages and relationships to school children and youth. Lastly, it is in utter opposition to the will of Hawaii voters who voted in 1998 to define marriage exclusively between a man and women in the Hawaii constitution. More than 250,000 Hawaii voters expressed their resolute position on the definition of marriage as exclusively between a man and women. The language "reserve marriage" indicates that the people of Hawaii recognize that the institute of marriage deserves and demands special consideration and criteria, one man and one woman exclusively.

I urge you to vote **NO** on S.B. 1. Thank you for your time and leadership.

Sincerely,
Kivette Akagi
Hawaii Voter

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLWebTestimony](#)
Cc: kaipoboy@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)*
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 10:14:17 AM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/27/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
garrett	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 1, A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EQUAL RIGHTS

Mark B. Au

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

Monday, October 28, 2013, 10:30 a.m., Capitol Auditorium

Aloha Chair, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I strongly oppose the passage of S.B. 1. I am Mark Au, and was born and raised in Hawaii and currently live in Kailua. I am opposed for the following reasons:

- 1) Legally: Our Hawaii State Supreme Court in the case of Baehr (later Miike) v. Lewin (1993) held that a right to same-sex marriage would not violate the fundamental principles of liberty and justice. Moreover, in 1998, the “marriage amendment” in the State Constitution, Article 1, Section 23 was ratified by over 70% of the voters giving the legislature the power to reserve marriage to opposite couples. This did not empower the legislature to offer marriage to same-sex couples as in this proposed legislation. If so, this would require a further amendment to the marriage amendment, i.e. let the people vote and decide through in another referendum.
- 2) Violates the rights of parents to educate their children: In areas where same-sex marriage laws have passed, Massachusetts, and Ontario, Canada, the courts have dismissed lawsuits of those parents opposed to having their children forced to be taught that the teaching of homosexuality relationships are identical to heterosexual ones and part of human sexuality. The courts have even prohibited parents from “opting out” of these teachings of the normalization of homosexuality with a “take it or leave it” attitude. I am convinced that these same actions will take place in Hawaii if this law is passed.
- 3) Society’s values: This redefines marriage and will have a devastating impact on society for generations. Marriage is the union of a man and woman. I oppose legislation conferring legal status on any other type of sexual relationship. Your role is to help our children have a mother and a father in a child’s life. Affirming marriage serves this purpose. If you follow the logic, if marriage is not exclusive to opposite sex couples and includes same-sex couples, and not limited based on the sex of one’s partner, then why limit marriage to a couple?
- 4) Freedom of conscience and religious freedom violated: Religious and persons of conscience who share their views regarding same-sex unions will be threatened to speak out if this law is passed because same-sex unions, and therefore, homosexual behavior and relationships are to be accepted and “normalized” and viewed as the same as traditional marriage. Proponents would apply or pass “hates crimes” legislation to muzzle and prevent priests, pastors, and religious leaders from speaking freely about the prohibition of homosexual lifestyle. Already in Massachusetts, justices of the peace who refused to preside over same-sex marriages due to moral or religious objections were fired. In Canada, those speaking freely against this behavior and relationships have been challenged as “hate crimes”. Hawaii would soon follow with this

type of action against persons of faith and conscience. I am convinced, based on past proponent strategies, any proposed religious exemptions in this bill would soon be repealed.

- 5) Negative impact on our businesses: Businesses who refuse to provide service to a same-sex couple based on religious beliefs and conscience will be sued and taken to court. In Albuquerque, New Mexico a wedding photographer was held liable under the state's anti-discrimination laws for refusing to photograph a same-sex couple commitment ceremony. While New Mexico doesn't have same-sex marriage, the courts are treating homosexuality like race for purposes of non-discrimination. Even same-sex marriage supporters opposed this ruling. If this law is passed, this same situation will occur because of the law.

- 6) Past results: Results from other States indicate that in most cases, same-sex marriage is not the true intent of advocates. Research shows that not a large number of same-sex couples want to marry. In Hawaii, the Legislature passed laws to provide marriage rights and benefits - including the reciprocal beneficiaries act, followed by domestic partnerships and most recently, civil unions – with advocates promising the public that these laws will satisfy their request for equality and will not lead to same-sex marriage. Same-sex marriage advocates' strategy here and across the country in the past, now and the future is not truly marriage, rather it is about legalizing the approval on homosexuality and imposing it with force throughout the various social and political institutions of a society that would never accept it otherwise.

In conclusion, I urge you to vote no on to SB. 1 because an unjust law isn't a law at all.

Testimony Regarding the Marriage Equality Act

Milton Nodacker and Jean Nodacker of Pahoa, Hawaii, submit the following in testimony on the Marriage Equality Act:

In reviewing the proposed Marriage Equality Act it is evident that the so-called protections for religious organizations and persons are completely inadequate. They were either included as mere "see, we protected your interests" eyewash or drafted with the intent of maximizing litigation and strife over the issue in the state of Hawaii. The proposed legislation should be carefully redrafted and considered, not crammed through in a special session.

The legislature and governor are responding to a very small, but highly vocal and well financed minority attempting to bludgeon the rest of the population into accepting their chosen lifestyle as normal. Enactment of this bill will give these activists a weapon which they will use to attack persons and organizations of religious conviction and destroy lives and small businesses.

An analysis of the bill by seven professors from five US law schools in a letter to Senator Rosalyn H. Baker finds it completely inadequate in protections for religious objection. In addition to protection for religious institution, they recommend the following amendments to protect persons of religious conviction:

(b) Individuals and small businesses protected.

(1) Except as provided in paragraph (b)(2), no individual, sole proprietor, or small business shall be required to

(A) provide goods or services that assist or promote the solemnization or celebration of any marriage, or provide counseling or other services that directly facilitate the perpetuation of any marriage; or

(B) provide benefits to any spouse of an employee; or

(C) provide housing to any married couple

if providing such goods, services, benefits, or housing would cause such individuals or sole proprietors, or owners of such small businesses, to violate their sincerely held religious beliefs.

(2) Paragraph (b)(1) shall not apply if

(A) a party to the marriage is unable to obtain any similar good or services, employment benefits, or housing elsewhere without substantial hardship; or

(B) in the case of an individual who is a government employee or official, if another government employee or official is not promptly available and willing to provide the requested government service without inconvenience or delay; *provided that* no judicial officer authorized to solemnize marriages shall be required to solemnize any marriage if to do so would violate the judicial officer's sincerely held religious beliefs.

(3) A "small business" within the meaning of paragraph (b)(1) is a legal entity other than a natural person

(A) that provides services which are primarily performed by an owner of the business; or

(B) that has five or fewer employees; or

(C) in the case of a legal entity that offers housing for rent, that owns five or fewer units of housing.

(c) No civil cause of action or other penalties.

No refusal to provide services, accommodations, advantages, facilities, goods, or privileges protected by this section shall

(1) result in a civil claim or cause of action challenging such refusal; or

(2) result in any action by the State or any of its subdivisions to penalize or withhold benefits from any protected entity or individual, under any laws of this State or its subdivisions, including but not limited to laws regarding employment discrimination, housing, public accommodations, educational institutions, licensing, government contracts or grants, or tax-exempt status.⁷

* * * * *

Some have expressed concern that the proposed text would permit objections to interracial marriage. Although such objections are likely to be rare, if not non-existent, this concern is readily addressed by a simple proviso that would read: “Notwithstanding any of the foregoing provisions, this section does not change any provision of law with respect to discrimination on the basis of race.” This proposed amendment has several important benefits. First, this text parallels existing protections in Hawaii’s nondiscrimination laws for a “religious or denominational institution or organization, or any organization operated for charitable or educational purposes, that is operated, supervised or controlled by or in connection with a religious organization.”

The text also significantly mirrors, in part, the express protections provided in the Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Washington same-sex marriage laws for religious organizations. Many of these laws protect, among other things, the conscientious refusal “to provide services, accommodations, advantages, facilities, goods, or privileges . . . related to the solemnization of a marriage.”

These seven legal scholars conclude their analysis and recommendations as follows:

Once the bill is passed, those opposed to *any* exceptions for religious communities will give the narrowest possible interpretation to all exemptions. For this reason, the legislature ought to take enough time to write legislation consonant with President Obama’s sage counsel: “On an issue as sensitive as this, knowing that Americans hold a wide range of views based on deeply held beliefs, maintaining our nation’s commitment to religious freedom is also vital.” To clarify the sort of legal protection that should surround religious life in this country, and to foster and address a whole range of developing conflicts, further reflection on refining this legislation is imperative.

The proposed bill in Hawaii to legalize same-sex marriage provides *considerably less* protection than most *every other jurisdiction* where the legislature has considered the issue. Connecticut, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Washington have all enacted same-sex marriage laws, and all provide much more protection for religious liberty than Hawaii’s proposed legislation. Each of those states protects religious organizations from being forced to offer “services, accommodations, advantages, facilities, goods, or privileges” related to a marriage when doing so would violate their religious beliefs. Although the protections in Connecticut, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Washington also fall short in key areas, they still provide far more protection than Hawaii’s proposed same sex marriage legislation.

Without adequate safeguards for religious liberty of the sort proposed in this letter, the recognition of same-sex marriage will lead to socially divisive and entirely unnecessary conflicts between the exercise of rights pursuant to the same-sex marriage law and religious liberty. That is a destructive path

leading to needless loss by both sides. A balanced “middle way” leads to a win-win solution for both sides. The Hawaii State Legislature should avoid either extreme and be the wise peacemaker. [All emphasis in original.]

We urge you to support the recommended amendments to the bill to protect those citizens and organizations who conscientiously object to participation in solemnization of same sex marriages. If these amendments can not be made, we urge you to vote to table the measure until it can be rewritten or to vote for its defeat. We would be happy to provide the entire letter and its recommendations at your request.

Sincerely,

/s/ Milton Nodacker Jean Nodacker

nodacker@gmail.com

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor Testimony for SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

I am opposed to SB1 because marriage is one of the most important institutions of society. It is a commitment that demonstrates how one should relate to and respect one another. Where children are born and nurtured and taught values and morals and to also to respect one another. However, if you change the definition of marriage to become something other than the joining of one man and one woman, dire consequences will occur.

Number 1: Marriage will no longer be seen as necessary. In Massachusetts where same sex marriage was first legalized, only 52% of same sex couples even bothered to marry. In the Netherlands, the same sex marriage rate is only 12%. This sends a message that marriage is optional and not the norm, thus fewer people will decide to marry.

Number 2: More children will be born out of wedlock. Most same sex marriage couples do not marry with the intention of having children.

A good, well thought out law brings well being and life to the state but a poorly written, law which is hastily voted on brings oppression to its people and even worse left open for interpretation. In a society which is already having trouble maintaining stability in marriage and family life, this could be disastrous. Allowing same sex marriage would introduce more uncertainty and instability to our state. I thought the state and its laws were supposed to protect families?

Please do not allow SB1 to pass in its present condition but allow the public to vote on this very important decision.

For the Senate hearing: Hearing on 10/28 @ 10:30am

Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am opposing Same Sex Marriage because Same Sex Marriage violates Chinese Tradition.

American Chinese are very serious about family. We tell the youth that taking care the elderlies in the family is their duty. We finance businesses through family. We borrow money to buy properties through family. We obtain the best education through family.

We know from our hearts that we need love from father and mother, so we apply the same to others. Our children need love from their father and mother as we do.

Same Sex Marriage bill is going to destroy Chinese tradition. We want our local boys and girls know that rearing family biologically is the best. We want to give the best to our future.

Therefore, please vote NO on any piece of the Same Sex Marriage bill!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLWebTestimony](#)
Cc: rm29@uhme.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 10:24:09 AM
Attachments: [Testimony..docx](#)

SB1

Submitted on: 10/27/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Winnie Kuei	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLWebTestimony](#)
Cc: sdano96744@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (In Person)
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 10:25:27 AM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/27/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Sheri Dano	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I am writing this statement to you to voice my STRONG opposition to the Bill (SB1) being presented to legalize same sexed marriage. This Bill does not do enough to preserve so many of our rights and freedoms. The issue of same sexed marriage is complex. The state has already voted on this issue and had decided that marriage was between a man and a woman. You are distorting the intentions of the vote that was taken by the citizens of this state and abusing your power. If you want to make changes, why not allow the people to vote on an issue that is so divisive. I believe that it goes against all we stand for as a DEMOCRACY. Please vote NO!

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For the Senate hearing: Hearing on 10/28 @ 10:30am

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Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

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In addition, legalizing Same Sex Marriage will have a negative effect on the liberties of religious freedom, as it relates to what the Bible holds as God's Truth and Christians' freedom to teach from it. Government should never define moral value and limit the teachings of faith group. Legalizing Same Sex Marriage will put a threat to religious freedom.

Therefore, please vote NO on any piece of the Same Sex Marriage bill!

Aloha Senators and Representatives,

I am strong oppose to Senate Bill 1 and I feel that the religious exemptions are not adequate to protect individuals, religious organizations, and their affiliates. While I believed in equal rights, there is nothing equal about this bill. Same sex couples already receive all of their state benefits through the Civil Union Law and have access to their federal benefits through the recent Supreme Court ruling. Meanwhile, this bill will negatively impact individuals religious organizations and their affiliates. Just because the public accommodation section was deleted from the final version of the bill, it does not mean that religious organizations and their affiliates are not subject to the public accommodations law. An entire state department does not just disappear overnight. Hawaii Civil Rights Commission will still enforce the public accommodations laws and with no protection written into our current bills, many religious organizations and their affiliates will be left vulnerable. Washington, a very liberal state, has explicitly stated in their laws that even if a religious organization is considered to be a public accommodation they still cannot be sued. In addition, this bill violates our First Amendment rights, the freedom of religion As a basic constitutional right, everyone should have the right to believe and practice what they believe in. They should not be forced to participate in anything goes against their religious beliefs. Our society is a very litigious society and this bill does not provide sufficient religious protections.

I also do not support this bill and do not believe that we should have a special session for several different reasons. The governor should not be calling a special session for a bill that did not receive a single hearing during regular session. This bill was ignored during regular session but now we are having a special session that will cost tax payers thousand of dollars?! The governor should also not have been contribution to the writing bills because it is outside of his branch of government. The legislative branch writes and passes bills, the executive branch enforces laws, and the judiciary branch interprets laws. The special session is limited to the least amount of days to hear the least amount of people. There will be no hearings held on the neighbor islands even though this bill will affect them too. Testimonies will be limited to two minutes per a person. Lastly, the bill wasn't released until five days before the special session starts. An entire section on religious exemptions that was completed replaced, leaving the public less than a week to analyze the bill.

This bill will affect so many individuals, religious organizations and their affiliates, businesses, non profits, education, and so forth. ONE WEEK IS TOO SHORT to even begin to understand and analyze the bill. feel like the legislators are shoving this bill through the special session without any regard for the people that voted them into office. This bill does not represent the will o the people and will negatively impact Hawaii.

Again, I am in strong opposition to SB 1 and urge you to vote NO to this bill..

Annora Ng
Honolulu, HI 96817

For the Senate hearing: Hearing on 10/28 @ 10:30am

Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

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Same Sex Marriage bill is going to destroy Chinese tradition. We want our local boys and girls know that rearing family biologically is the best. We want to give the best to our future.

Therefore, please vote NO on any piece of the Same Sex Marriage bill!

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Therefore, please vote NO on any piece of the Same Sex Marriage bill!

Aloha Kakou, Honorable Senators and Representatives of the Hawaii State Legislature.

I write to you today in **opposition** to **Special Session Measure SB 1** which will allow same-sex marriages in the State of Hawaii.

Abuse of Power

We gave you the power to uphold the right to reserve marriage between one man and one woman. We did not give you the power to change it at your will. I am protesting your decision to change the definition of marriage to include those of the same sex. Civilly, any couple of legal age & status can legally join in union. That is the extent of the law, and that is how it should remain. You should not use the citizens of Hawaii as guinea pigs in the experiment of social engineering by allowing those who prefer sex with the same-sex individuals to marry just so they can receive Federal benefits. As a reminder:

Constitutional Amendment 2 of 1998 amended the [Constitution of Hawaii](#), granting the state legislature the power to prevent [same-sex marriage](#) from being conducted or recognized in [Hawaii](#). Amendment 2 was the first constitutional amendment adopted in the [United States](#) that specifically targeted same-sex partnerships.[1]

In 1993, the [Hawaii State Supreme Court](#) ruled in *Baehr v. Lewin*, 852 P.2d 44 (Haw. 1993), that refusing to grant marriage licenses to same-sex couples was discriminatory under that state's constitution.[2] However, the court did not immediately order the state to begin issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples; rather, it stayed its ruling and ordered the state to justify its position. This ruling galvanized opposition to same-sex marriage in the state and around the country and led to the adoption of Amendment 2.[citation needed]

Amendment 2 differed from amendments that followed in other states in that it did not write a ban on same-sex marriage into the state's constitution; rather, it allowed the state legislature to enact such a ban.[3] On November 3, 1998, Hawaii voters approved the amendment by a vote of 69.2–28.6%,[4] and the state legislature exercised its power to ban same-sex marriage.[3]

The amendment reads:[5]

The legislature shall have the power to reserve marriage to opposite-sex couples.

Desire vs. Race - Mutable vs. Immutable

Sexual preference comes the mind, which is stimulated by the senses, and the mind and its desires can - and does - change. It can also be controlled and redirected, whereas race comes from the genes and has nothing to do with the mind; it cannot be controlled or redirected. You can change your mindset; you cannot change your genes. For example, a man may think himself to be Native Hawaiian, but genetically, he's Euro-Asian. No amount of thinking can change that fact. But the same person has choices on how he has sex. He may have very strong desires to have sex with his brother, male best friend, or even his Rottweiler - and is thoroughly convinced that he is a homosexual or otherwise. But in fact, these are desires; they didn't spring from genetics - they spring from the mind: he wants to enjoy sex in a particular way - and those desires are mutable. Your treating sexual preference as the same as being Native Hawaiian is disingenuous, at best. Sexual preference is not a Civil Right, nor is marriage between any consenting adult - and that is the way it should stay.

Same-sex "Marriage" is not a Civi Right

Il have attached a file to this article, which, given the time-frame, you may not have the time to read - but if you get around to it, it may help you understand a different aspect in this all-important decision. If the file attachment doesn't work, here is the link:
[http://www.cpjustice.org/stories/storyReader\\$1178](http://www.cpjustice.org/stories/storyReader$1178)

Doing What is Pono

So, basing laws upon a small group of people who have sex with the same sex is unintelligent and is unworthy of your position as our elected State leaders. We elected you; we can un-elect you if you misuse our trust. (See: Mufi Hannemann, Linda Lingle) You need to see the big picture here, and not get caught up in the fervent emotion surrounding this issue. Doing what is Pono for all, including those who wish to have sex with the same sex, means you stay out of the "marriage" business, stop the forced social engineering and vote NO on so-called "marriage equality."

Mahalo Nui Loa & Ke Akua Ho'omaika'i Oe,

J. Mitchell
Kailua, HI 96734

For the Senate hearing: Hearing on 10/28 @ 10:30am

Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

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In addition, legalizing Same Sex Marriage will have a negative effect on the liberties of religious freedom, as it relates to what the Bible holds as God's Truth and Christians' freedom to teach from it. Government should never define moral value and limit the teachings of faith group. Legalizing Same Sex Marriage will put a threat to religious freedom.

Therefore, please vote NO on any piece of the Same Sex Marriage bill!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLWebTestimony](#)
Cc: gwahinepio@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 10:28:16 AM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/27/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
gloria wahinepio	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I request the right to vote on same-sex marriage. Our family who is native to this land for generations upholds the Word of God given to us in the Bible which defines marriage as union between a man and a woman. To lend support to a perversion of God's commandment would poison our children. God declares: "If anyone causes one of these little ones--those who believe in me--to stumble, it would be better for them to have a large millstone hung around their neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea." Please respect.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLWebTestimony](#)
Cc: jrahawaiigirl@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (In Person)
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 10:28:51 AM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/27/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Jennifer Au	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Testimony for Matthew Au

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Dear Honorable Representatives,

According to the Ms. Juliet Joslin vs New Zealand case, the United Nation human rights committee, which was formed by 18 Human Right experts, stated clearly that same-sex marriage is NOT civil right.

The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, article 23, paragraph 2 stated clearly that marriage is between men and women.

“The right of men and women of marriageable age to marry and to found a family shall be recognized.”

However, the people of New Zealand legalized same-sex marriage several months ago. But it passed 3 readings and took almost a year for the entire legalization process. Even though same-sex marriage is not civil right, it is recognized by the people of New Zealand.

We have a different political system in the United States but let me ask these:

1. What is marriage? And who can answer this?

The people!

A 5-day special session is not enough to collect the voice of the people on marriage. Please do not compromise democracy for what you believe “good” reason. If so, as an immigrant from China, I can share with you that this is what we called - dictatorship.

A ‘Yes’ vote during special session is a ‘No’ vote to democracy. Please, kill the bill during this special session.

Thank you.

To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 10:42:46 PM

Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 407
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Date: Oct. 26, 2013

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

Date: Oct. 26, 2013

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hearing Date/Time: Monday, October 28, 2013, 10:30 a.m.
Place: Capitol Auditorium
Re: Strong Opposition of SB1

Dear Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am writing to voice my opposition to Bill SB1.

As one of your constituents and a registered voter here in Hawaii, I am asking you to allow the people to decide on the issue of marriage as I believe the legislature is going against the will of the people. I support equality for all including the rights of conscience and religious freedom, which I ask you to respect as our elected leaders.

I am opposed to the most contentious social issue in our history being decided virtually in one week and ask that you please uphold the principles of democracy and the democratic process which are being disregarded in this special session.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

A.J. Williams
POB 3709
Lihue, HI 96766

To: Clayton Hee, Chair, Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY
Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I ask that you vote “No” on Senate bill 1 Relating to Equality during this special session. The Governor would have us believe that supporting his Socio Legal Experiment, Same-Sex Marriage, through a craftily worded administrative change in the law has legal benefits that outweigh the sociological impact of Same-Sex Marriage.

According to recent State of Hawai‘i, Department of Health statistics there were 916 Civil Unions consummated since they have been available compared to 32,513 Marriages between a man and a woman during that same period. **Why are you considering a bill in a special session to address just 3% of State licensed unions?**

If you pass this bill, you are forcing your constituents to be a part of the Governor’s Socio Legal Experiment. There are other states and a few countries who have decided to try this irreversible experiment. It is irreversible because once you grant someone legal privileges you cannot take those privileges away, like Civil Unions.

What has the experience of these states and countries been?

Massachusetts was the first State to enact Same-Sex Marriage in 2003 what are the consequences both intended and unintended in that State? All public school libraries are expanding their bookshelves with books to normalize the Same-Sex partner behavior and life style.

Canada acknowledged Same-Sex Marriage beginning in 2003. Besides Canadian schools teaching that there are now six genders, what were the intended and unintended consequences?

I urge you to vote “No” on this bill in this Special Session, to allow these questions to be vetted by a broader base of your constituents and understand the long-term effects of this bill. Same-Sex Marriage has not been in place anywhere long enough to assess the generational impact on our children, families and society.

Is this the legacy you want to leave as a legislator?

Thank you,
Alan Yamashiro

Even Massachusetts recognized same-sex marriage as a test . . .

<http://www.bostonglobe.com/news/nation/2013/06/26/roots-supreme-court-decision-overturning-doma-are-massachusetts/G31gFFEZbXLvgI0IWnFojO/story.html>

Providing a test case for gay marriage was, in retrospect, an essential part of a longer-term strategy.

“As long as there was no marriage then the argument that same-sex marriage wasn’t going to cause problems couldn’t be refuted,” said Barney Frank, who was the first openly gay congressman. “It gave us a basis to use some evidence, and show that the notion that this was going to hurt society was totally baseless.”

What are the facts concerning traditional marriage and civil unions?

<http://health.hawaii.gov/vitalstatistics>

Marriages: 32,513 97%

Civil Unions: 916 3%

Licensed Unions: 33,429 100%

Persons in civil unions account for less than 1/5 of 1% of the total population in Hawaii.

Statewide January to May 2013 Preliminary Vital Statistics As of July 11, 2013				
Month of Occurrence	Births	Deaths	Marriages	Civil Unions
January	1624	917	1414	36
February	1470	879	1482	40
March	1573	1000	1846	37
April	1468	861	1905	40
May	1589	867	2143	33
Total	7724	4524	8790	186

Last Updated on 07/11/2013 By Office of Health Status Monitoring

Statewide January to December 2012 Preliminary Vital Statistics As of January 28, 2013				
Month of Occurrence	Births	Deaths	Marriages	Civil Unions
January	1572	892	1369	116
February	1449	902	1745	80
March	1587	911	1856	53
April	1525	914	1906	55
May	1561	916	2315	52
June	1561	847	2144	66
July	1634	811	2018	55
August	1643	853	2102	48
September	1646	845	2119	61
October	1639	827	2217	59
November	1569	784	1655	39
December	1586	815	2277	46
Total	18972	10317	23723	730

Why is this irreversible?

The Federal Supreme court refused to acknowledge the legal standing of California’s Proposition 8. “Proposition 8 passed with 52 percent of the vote, halting gay marriage in California. Two gay couples then sued in federal court to overturn the ban. State officials refused to defend the law, and a federal judge allowed its original proponents — again, the people who put it on the ballot — to step in.”

<http://nbcpolitics.nbcnews.com/news/2013/06/26/19155307-prop-8-ruling-explained-why-gay-marriage-will-resume-in-california>

The Supreme Court ruling on a California law known as Proposition 8 came down to a legal technicality but has huge practical effect — restoring gay marriage in the nation’s most populous state.

The court ruled that proponents of Proposition 8, a ban on gay marriage passed by California voters in 2008, did not have the legal right to defend the law in the federal courts.

Chief Justice John Roberts, writing for the court, said that the proponents — the people who put Proposition 8 on the ballot — had no “personal stake” in defending it, at least no more than other ordinary citizens of California. At issue was a legal standard known as standing — the standard that keeps just anyone from suing about just anything in the federal courts. To have a case, the standard says, you have to show harm.

How will this Bill be enforced?

The Hawaii Civil Right Commission (HCRC) has been tasked with enforcement. Their legal position is very narrow and in support of Same-Sex Marriage. The HCRC is a State funded branch of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. Any individual may bring a complaint to the HCRC who would consider the complaint and bring suit on behalf of the plaintiff if deemed to be a violation. The defendant would be responsible for their own legal defense.

<http://labor.hawaii.gov/hcrc/hcrc-news/hcrc-response-regarding-marriage-equality-religious-organizations-and-facilities-and-public-accommodations-law/>

“The Hawai’i Civil Rights Commission supports the proposed marriage equality legislation, as offered in the draft bill posted by Governor Abercrombie, dated 9/9/13, including the proposed HRS §§ 572-F and 572-G religious exemptions for clergy who refuse to solemnize marriages and for religious organization that refuse to make religious facilities available for solemnization of a marriage, if the religious facility is not a place of public accommodation. The HCRC will oppose proposals to create religious exemptions that diminish protections against discrimination under our state public accommodations law.

Example 2

A religious organization owns a facility that it uses for religious purposes. It allows the rental of the facility for weddings for a fee, with a large number of international visitors paying to have their weddings at the site without regard to their religion. The religious organization wonders whether it may decline to rent the facility to same-sex couples for weddings.

Two-part inquiry:

1) Is this a place of public accommodation? Yes, the religious organization offers the use of its facility to the public as customers, clients, or visitors. This is a fact-based, case by case threshold determination.

2) Is there prohibited discrimination? Yes. The religious organization offers its facility for rent to the public for weddings, and does not require the couples getting married in the facility to be members or followers of the religious denomination. Discriminatory denial of use of the facility on the basis of sexual orientation is prohibited under the public accommodations law.”

What is the experience in Massachusetts?

Same-sex marriage in Massachusetts began on May 17, 2004, as a result of the Massachusetts [Supreme Judicial Court](#) (SJC) ruling in *Goodridge v. Department of Public Health* that it was unconstitutional under the [Massachusetts constitution](#) to allow only opposite-sex couples to marry. [Massachusetts](#) became the sixth [jurisdiction](#) in the world (after [the Netherlands](#), [Belgium](#), [Ontario](#), [British Columbia](#), and [Quebec](#)) to legalize [same-sex marriage](#). It was the first [U.S. state](#) to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples.^[1]

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Same-sex_marriage_in_Massachusetts

Background

In 1989, passing legislation first proposed in 1973, Massachusetts prohibited discrimination based on sexual orientation in credit, public and private employment, union practices, housing, and public accommodation.^[2] In the decade that followed, political debate addressed same-sex relationships through two proxy issues: spousal benefits and parenting rights. Boston's City Council debated health insurance for the same-sex partners of city employees in May 1991^[3] and Cambridge provided health benefits to the same-sex partners of its employees the following year.^[4] In 1992, Governor Bill Weld issued an executive order providing limited benefits for the same-sex partners of approximately 3,000 management-level state employees, covering only leave for family sickness and bereavement, far short of the health benefits LGBT activists were seeking, but probably the first state-level recognition of same-sex relationships.^[5] The Roman Catholic bishops of Massachusetts, replying in *The Pilot*, the newspaper of the [Boston Archdiocese](#), said that Weld's "domestic partners" decision harms the common good "by making a special interest group equal to the family" and confuses "civil rights and family benefits". They asked: "Why should special recognition and assistance be given to friends who happen to share the same house?"^[6] Legislation to establish domestic partnerships that would carry spousal benefits was introduced annually in the state legislature without success. Its supporters focused on equal benefits and fairness rather than same-sex relationships themselves.^[7] In 1998, when the legislature passed a [home rule](#) petition allowing Boston to create such a status, Governor [Paul Cellucci](#) vetoed it because it applied to different-sex couples, which he thought undermined marriage, while he offered to sign legislation that applied to same-sex couples only. Boston Mayor [Thomas Menino](#)'s attempt to extend health care benefits to city employees' domestic partners by executive order instead.^[8] was successfully challenged by the Catholic Action League in court.^[9]

The state had no explicit regulations with respect to foster care and parenting by gays and lesbians, either singly or in relationships, until, on May 24, 1985, the state Department of Social Services, with the approval of Governor [Michael Dukakis](#), created a rule that foster children be placed in "traditional family settings".^[10] In December 1986, a commission that reviewed the foster care system recommended that sexual orientation could not be used to disqualify foster parents.^[11] As Dukakis delayed accepting that recommendations, advocates for gay and lesbian rights threatened protests against his presidential campaign.^[12] The ban on gay foster parents was enacted into law in the 1989 budget.^[13] After a lawsuit challenging the ban was settled out of court, the Dukakis administration withdrew the policy in April 1990.^[14] In the 1990s, court decisions further expanded the parenting rights of gays and lesbians. In September 1993, the state's highest court ruled that state law allowed for second-parent adoption by a parent of the

same sex as a biological parent.^[15] In July 1999, the same court awarded visitation rights to each of two mothers after their separation.^[16]

Same-sex marriage itself was rarely mentioned or address directly during these years. The Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights launched a campaign on behalf of marriage rights for same-sex couples in Massachusetts in 1991. Governor [Bill Weld](#) said he would be willing to meet with the group and said he was undecided on the question.^[17] When asked about "gay marriage" while running to represent Massachusetts in the U.S. Senate in 1994, [Mitt Romney](#) said: "it is not appropriate at this time".^[18] In December 1996, considering the possibility of Hawaii legalizing same-sex marriage, Weld said that Massachusetts would recognize the validity of same-sex marriages licensed there. He called the [Defense of Marriage Act](#) unconstitutional.^[19]

In neighboring Vermont, activists mounted a legal challenge to that state's denial of marriage licenses to same-sex couples. The lawsuit, [Baker v. Vermont](#), was launched on July 22, 1997.^[20] The decision on December 20, 1999,^[21] launched a four-month debate as the legislature considered how to meet the court's requirement that same-sex couples have access to the rights and privileges of marriage. The end result was the passage of legislation establishing civil unions as an alternative to marriage.^[22] Governor [Howard Dean](#) signed the legislation on April 26^[23] and it took effect on July 1.^[24]

Protection of Marriage Amendment

In December 1998, state Representative [John H. Rogers](#), a Democrat, proposed legislation to prevent Massachusetts from granting legal recognition to same-sex marriages established elsewhere: "a purported marriage contracted between persons of the same sex shall be neither valid nor recognized in the Commonwealth."^[25] In 1999, the Lesbian and Gay Political Alliance of Massachusetts called it a "hate bill" and a coalition of more than 150 religious leaders formed the Religious Coalition for the Freedom to Marry to oppose it.^[26] Others religious leaders organized in support of the measure.^[25] Rogers revised his proposal to define marriage as the union of a man and a woman when he offered it again in 2001, with the additional provision that "Any other relationship shall not be recognized as a marriage, or its legal equivalent, or receive the benefits exclusive to marriage in the Commonwealth." The chair of the Lesbian and Gay Political Alliance of Massachusetts said its prospects for passage were slim but it could serve as a countervailing proposal to efforts at establishing civil unions or providing benefits to same-sex partners of state and local government employees.^{[27][28]} Alongside these legislative maneuvers, GLAD filed a lawsuit in state court challenging the denial of marriage rights to same-sex couples in April 2001.^[29]

In July 2001, Massachusetts Citizens for Marriage announced a campaign to amend the state constitution with language similar to Rogers' legislation,^[30] called the "Protection of Marriage Amendment".^[31] Some signature gatherers complained that opponents of the amendment were harassing them and their opponents charged in turn that some signature gatherers were misrepresenting the petition's content.^{[32][33]} A sufficient number of signatures were certified in December.^[34]

The President of the Massachusetts Senate controls the calling of a constitutional convention and its agenda.^[35] Senate President [Tom Birmingham](#), an opponent of the amendment, called a joint meeting of the legislature as a constitutional convention for June 19, 2002, and immediately adjourned it for a month saying legislators needed for time to consider the agenda items.^[36] When the constitutional convention met again on July 17, the amendment's opponents knew that

proponents had the 50 votes needed for passage. Birmingham, who was presiding, moved for adjournment without considering the amendment, and his motion passed 137 to 53. He called the amendment "wrong-hearted and wrong-headed" and defended the procedure: "Everybody recognizes a vote to adjourn was a vote up or down" on the amendment. "I did gavel the last constitutional convention to a recess because I felt the members needed more time to assess.... Today we saw democracy in action. They may not like it, but they lost two to one." A representative of the Catholic Action League, which supported the amendment, said: "Everything that is wrong with Massachusetts state government was apparent today for all the world to see". One legislator who voted to adjourn said: "For those of us who believe in an open democratic process, this was not a comfortable vote". State Senator [Cheryl A. Jacques](#), an opponent of the amendment and a lesbian, said: "I'm proud to have done anything possible to defeat this hate-filled, discriminatory measure. I'll take a victory on this any way I can get it."^[37] Arlene Isaacson of the Massachusetts Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus later explained it was a critical moment because same-sex marriage had no chance of winning a popular vote at the time: "Not that we would lose by a little, because that wasn't an issue. Rather, it was that we were going to get massacred"^[38].

In April 2003, a committee of the legislature held a hearing on the constitutional amendment,^[39] but took no action.^[40] The four Roman Catholic bishops of Massachusetts, long distracted by the revelations of the sexual abuse of minors by priests, did not address the issue until late May, when they ordered pastors to read and publish a statement to mobilize their parishioners to contact their legislators to urge them to support the constitutional amendment.^[41] On June 10, the [Court of Appeal for Ontario](#) decided *Halpern v. Canada*, making same-sex marriage immediately legal in that province.^[42]

Goodridge v. Department of Public Health[\[edit\]](#)

Main article: [Goodridge v. Department of Public Health](#)

Seven same-sex couples represented by [Gay & Lesbian Advocates and Defenders](#) initiated a lawsuit in state court, *Goodridge v. Department of Public Health*, on April 11, 2001. The plaintiffs argued that denying same-sex couples equal marriage rights was unconstitutional under the state constitution. On May 7, 2002, [Suffolk County](#) Superior Court Judge Thomas E. Connolly ruled that the state marriage statute was not gender-neutral, no fundamental right to same-sex marriage existed, and that limiting marriage to male-female couples was rational because "procreation is marriage's central purpose".^[43] He concluded his legal analysis by saying that the issue should be handled by the legislature.^[1]

The plaintiffs appealed directly to the [Supreme Judicial Court](#) (SJC), which heard arguments on March 4, 2003. [Mary Bonauto](#) of GLAD argued the case for the plaintiffs. Assistant Attorney General Judith Yogman represented the DPH.^[44] On November 18, 2003, the SJC ruled 4 to 3 that the state's ban on same-sex marriage was unconstitutional. The court said: "We declare that barring an individual from the protections, benefits, and obligations of civil marriage solely because that person would marry a person of the same sex violates the Massachusetts Constitution." It provided a definition of marriage that would meet the state constitution's requirements: "We construe civil marriage to mean the voluntary union of two persons as spouses, to the exclusion of all others." The court stayed its ruling for 180 days to allow the state legislature "take such action as it may deem appropriate in light of this opinion."^[1]

Governor Mitt Romney said he disagreed with the SJC's decision, but "We obviously have to follow the law as provided by the Supreme Judicial Court, even if we don't agree with it". He said he would work with the legislature to draft a law "consistent" with the ruling. He also backed an amendment to the state constitution to define marriage as the union of a man and a woman while also providing by statute "basic civil rights and appropriate benefits to same-sex couples and other nontraditional relationships."^[45] Romney quickly joined legislators in attempting to satisfy the *Goodridge* decision by creating civil unions for same-sex couples.^[46] His views were recognized as an attempt to establish his record on a controversial issue while planning to run for the Republican nomination for president.^[47] Former Governor Weld took credit for laying the groundwork for the decision: "A lot of the stuff we did foreshadowed the opinion." He said: "It is a thunderbolt, but a thunderbolt correctly heard."^[48]

Opponents of gay and lesbian rights opposed any compromise with the SJC. Brian Camenker, head of the Parents Rights Coalition, said: "As Martin Luther King pointed out in his letter from the Birmingham jail, there are some laws that are so unnatural that you have an obligation to openly defy them. The concept of stable, healthy gay relationships is largely a manufacturing of the gay propaganda machine." He called the decision "complete lunacy" and said: "It's beyond shocking. It's madness. It's four judges basically turning society inside out with no input from anybody else."^[49]

The public schools in Massachusetts

The homosexual "marriage" onslaught in public schools across the state started soon after the November 2003 court ruling.

2004 - By the following year it was in elementary school curricula – with hostility toward parents who disagreed. Kindergartners in Lexington, Mass. were given copies of a picture book, *Who's in a Family?*, telling them that same-sex couples are just another kind of family, just like their own parents. When David Parker – parent of a kindergartner – calmly refused to leave a school meeting unless officials agreed to notify him when discussing homosexuality or transgenderism with his son, the school had him arrested and jailed overnight.

2005 - The next year, second graders at the same school were read a book, *King and King*, about two men who fall in love and marry each other, ending with a picture of them kissing. When parents Robb and Robin Wirthlin complained, they were told that the school had no obligation to notify them or allow them to opt their child out.

In 2006 a cross-dressing man undergoing a sex-change operation was brought into a third-grade class in Newton to teach the children that there are now "different kinds of families." School officials told a mother that her complaints to the principal were considered "inappropriate behavior"! She ended up removing her child from the school.

In 2007 a federal judge ruled that because of "gay marriage" in Massachusetts, parents have no rights regarding the teaching of homosexual relationships in schools. The previous year the Parkers and Wirthlins had filed a federal civil rights lawsuit to force the schools to notify parents and allow them to opt out their elementary school children when homosexual-related subjects were taught. The federal judge dismissed the case. The appeals judges later upheld the first judge's ruling that because same-sex marriage is legal in Massachusetts, the school actually had a duty to normalize homosexual relationships to children; and schools have no obligation to notify parents or let them opt out their children. Acceptance of homosexuality had become a matter of good citizenship!

School libraries have also radically changed. School libraries across the state, from elementary school to high school, now have expanding shelves of books to normalize homosexual behavior and “lifestyle” in the minds of kids, some of them quite explicit and even pornographic. Parents’ complaints are ignored or met with hostility.

“Gay days” in schools are considered necessary to fight “intolerance” against same sex relationships. Hundreds of high schools and even middle schools across the state now hold “gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender days.” In my own town, a school committee member announced that combating “homophobia” was now a top priority. The schools not only “celebrate” homosexual marriage, but have moved beyond to promote other behaviors such as cross-dressing and transsexuality.

Public Health in Massachusetts

In recent years state funding for HIV/AIDS programs has gone up considerably in Massachusetts, along with the proportion of homosexual-related cases. According to the Massachusetts Dept. of Public Health, even though the total number of new HIV/AIDS diagnoses has declined, the proportion caused by male homosexual behavior rose by over 30% from 2000-2009. Thus, for the last several years the state has budgeted \$30-\$35 million per year for these programs.

A hideously obscene booklet on “gay” practices created by health officials was given out in a high school. Citing “the right to marry” as one of the “important challenges” in a place where “it’s a great time to be gay,” the Mass. Dept. of Public Health helped the AIDS Action Committee produce *The Little Black Book: Queer in the 21st Century*. It was given to teens at Brookline High School on April 30, 2005. Among other things, it gives “tips” to boys on how to perform oral sex on other males, masturbate other males, and how to “safely” have someone urinate on you for sexual pleasure. It even included a directory of bars in Boston where young men meet for anonymous sex.

Hospitals in Massachusetts

A major Boston hospital threatened to fire a physician when he objected to its promotion of homosexual behavior. In 2011 a prominent physician at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston – a large Harvard-affiliated hospital – objected to the hospital being involved with “Gay Pride” activities. He also pointed out to his superiors the medical health risks of homosexuality, and said that he and others at the hospital considered homosexual acts to be unnatural and immoral. The hospital then threatened to fire him, telling him that same-sex marriage is “legal” and that his comments constituted “harassment and discrimination.” After a “hearing” he was allowed to keep his job, but was told to apologize and to keep his opinions on these matters to himself.

Domestic Violence in Massachusetts

“Gay domestic partner violence” literature (funded by the state) is now distributed at virtually every public homosexual event – including to children at “Youth Pride” events, GLSEN conferences, “gay straight alliance” high school clubs – and especially at the various events and parades during “Gay Pride” week.

Business and Employment in Massachusetts

People can now get fired from their jobs for expressing religious objections to same-sex “marriage.” In 2009, a deputy manager at a Brookstone store in Boston was fired from his job for mentioning his belief to another manager who had kept bringing up the subject with him that day. Brookstone’s letter of termination (quoted on local TV news) said his comment was “inappropriate” because “in the State of Massachusetts, same-sex marriage is legal.”

The wedding industry is required to serve the homosexual community if requested. Wedding photographers, halls, caterers, etc., must accept same-sex marriage events or be held liable for discrimination.

Businesses are often “tested” for tolerance by homosexual activists. Groups of homosexual activists go into restaurants or bars and publicly kiss and fondle each other to test whether the establishment demonstrates sufficient “equality” — now that homosexual marriage is “legal.” Then they report “tolerance violators” to authorities, and businesses can be fined and punished. In fact, more and more overt displays of homosexual affection are seen in public places across the state to reinforce “marriage equality.”

Legal profession and judicial system in Massachusetts

In 2011 the Governor appointed Barbara Lenk, a “married” lesbian activist, to be a state Supreme Court Justice. She has said that the interpretation of law “evolves and develops” because “minority groups [e.g., homosexuals] see certain things differently based on their own experiences.”

Adoption and birth certificates in Massachusetts

In the year after the “gay marriage” ruling, the state’s adoption and foster care workers went through a massive indoctrination on “LGBT youth awareness.” This included employees and managers at the Mass. Dept. of Social Services. These sessions were run by the radical National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (which once awarded a “Leather Leadership Award” to the owner of a pornographic video company). The emphasis was that those working with children must be trained that homosexuality (and transgenderism) are normal. At one session, the trainer announced that the new motto is, “To tolerate is an assault; you have to accept” this behavior.

Homosexual “married” couples can now demand to be allowed to adopt children – through any agency. In 2006 Catholic Charities decided to abandon handling adoptions rather submit to regulations requiring them to allow homosexuals to adopt the children in their care.

In 2006 the Massachusetts Department of Social Services (DSS) honored two men “married” to each other as their “Parents of the Year.” The men had adopted a baby through DSS (against the wishes of the baby’s birth parents). According to news reports, the day after that adoption was final, DSS approached the men about adopting a second child.

A court ruled in 2012 that if a child is “born of a same-sex marriage,” there is no need for adoption by a non-biological parent. Thus, they would both be listed as the “parents” on the child’s birth certificate, without any formal proceedings necessary. (The other biological parent is not noted on the official birth certificate.)

Government mandates in Massachusetts

In 2004, Governor Mitt Romney ordered Justices of the Peace to perform homosexual marriages when requested or be fired. Several Justices of the Peace immediately decided to resign. That order still stands. Also Town Clerks were forced by the Governor’s office to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples.

Marriage licenses and certificates in Massachusetts now have “Party A” and “Party B” instead of “husband” and “wife.”

Churches being harassed in Massachusetts

In 2005 hundreds of homosexual activists terrorized the Tremont Temple Baptist Church with makeshift coffins, screaming obscenities through loudspeakers as the national pro-family group Focus on the Family held a religious conference inside. The crowd was so threatening that attendees could not leave the church for the lunch break.

In 2012 someone threatened to burn down a Catholic Church in Acushnet which posted the words “Two men are friends, not spouses” on its outdoor sign. The church immediately received a flood of profane phone calls. At least one person threatened to burn down the church. An activist nailed a sign to church’s fence saying, “Spread love not hate.” Activists staged a protest outside of the Sunday Mass to intimidate parishioners with a sign saying, “It is legal for two men or women to be spouses.” Neither the police nor the District Attorney pursued the threats as a hate crime or other offense.

Politics in Massachusetts

A climate of fear has kept politicians at all levels from disagreeing with or criticizing same-sex marriage since it became “legal.” Public officials are afraid of being accused of wanting to “take away rights.” Those who support traditional marriage rarely discuss it publicly. And this fear has expanded to suppress any meaningful debate on all homosexual related issues. Additionally, it has brought a feeling of intimidation among pro-family people across the state.

Every Massachusetts state-wide elected official and member of Congress (but one) now publicly supports “gay marriage.” The one (apparent) holdout, Republican US Senator Scott Brown, strenuously avoids the issue, saying that it’s “settled law” and not worth fighting over.

Rule of Law in Massachusetts

Same-sex “marriage” came to Massachusetts through a radical court’s narrow ruling. Because of that, there is an often depressing sense of helplessness that pervades this issue. The marriage statute was never changed, and it has been convincingly argued that the whole process was in violation of the state constitution. The Governor simply went along. And the Legislature acted to block popular votes on two separate constitutional amendments protecting marriage, after sufficient signatures had been gathered for each.

Even the Massachusetts Law Library (online) shows no law legalizing same-sex marriage, only a court opinion. It is a dangerous precedent to allow such sweeping judicial activism to stand as law, enabling everything that has followed from it.

Massachusetts Experience Cited

This goal is seen in Massachusetts, where court-mandated same-sex marriage has opened the door to a radical push for homosexual sex education in the public schools. In Lexington, a man by the name of David Parker requested that his kindergarten son be excused from this homosexual indoctrination. Mr. Parker's basic and reasonable parental request was denied by school officials and when he refused to retract it, he was not only denied, but arrested. He was not requesting a change in the curriculum; he was simply requesting that he be notified so that his six year old son could be absented from such indoctrination. Mr. Parker was not only arrested, but in his civil case the judge stated that Mr. Parker vacated his rights of input on these matters when he chose to send his son to public school.

Canadian Experience

http://www.law.harvard.edu/students/orgs/jlpp/Vol29_No3_Allen.pdf

Because legal regulations on marriage revolve around children, and because same-sex families are fundamentally different from heterosexual ones in this respect, this area poses the greatest risk of legal

misfit. Ironically, evidence for these changes appeared immediately after the introduction of same-sex marriage. For example, in Canada, the second half of Bill C-38, the Canadian federal Civil Marriage Act changing the definition of marriage, contains changes to other pieces of federal legislation removing the definition of natural parent and replacing it with "legal" parent.³⁹ A legal parent, like one of the partners within a same sex marriage, is not biologically linked to the child. Of course, there is no natural limit to the number of legal parents a child may have, and in a same-sex marriage with one child there are at least three adults involved in some role as parent, whether legal or not. The impact of creating "legal" parents will be felt in our culture for many years, and to the extent it is important for the biological connection between a child and parent to be recognized under the law, such a change can only harm heterosexual marriages.

Unintended or unanticipated outcomes are the result of false theories of human behavior. Proponents claim that adding a small number of same-sex marriages into the net number of marriages benefits homosexuals with no costs to heterosexuals. Laws, if they are to have value, must necessarily come down on one side or another. As Coase pointed out over forty years ago, the question is not how to eliminate harm, but rather who should be allowed to hurt whom such that the greater harm is avoided?⁷⁷ Heterosexual marriage rules would be modified because they would be inappropriate for same-sex marriages.

Summary: Inclusion Costs: Any type of couple that is included into marriage that requires a *redefinition* of marriage imposes a cost on the existing types of couples. Marriage has been designed for monogamous heterosexual couples. Any change to its institutional structure to accommodate others, must impose costs on the existing marriages. This is the argument of my paper in the *Harvard Journal of Law & Public Policy*.

Historically the definition of parent has been "natural parent" which has meant "biological parent." There can only be two natural parents, and someone who is the biological parent has been given an entire set of rights and responsibilities. These rights and responsibilities have been designed to manage the problems that arise in procreation. Societies have wanted parents to have the proper incentives to remain married and to look after their offspring. It has always been a serious matter to alter these rights and responsibilities.

Well, natural parenthood makes no sense when you introduce same sex marriage, because if there are children one of the spouses is not biologically connected. In jurisdictions that have same sex marriage there is always some type of redefinition to accommodate this. In Canada we created a concept called "legal parent." In British Columbia this has meant a birth certificate asks for the mother's name and the "co-parent's" name. The concept of "father" has been reduced. More significantly, there can be more than two legal parents. There have been a host of legal cases involving divorce where biology has no standing and non-biological but legally-connected parents have been given custody. This is a dramatic shift in the rights of parents, and affects the way parents behave. The impacts of these are yet to be fully seen.

In Canada, the granting gays the right to marry is being used as an excuse for an all out assault on free speech and religious freedom, attacking any with opposing views as bigots engaged in "hate" speech. The shocking depth of this attack is chronicled by Hans C. Clausen, former Editor in Chief of the *Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law*, in his 66 page report published March 1, 2005. The "privilege of speech" in a "pleasantly authoritarian country": how Canada's judiciary allowed laws proscribing discourse critical of homosexuality to trump free speech and religious liberty.

After describing Kempling's suspension from his teaching position for publicly expressing his views on homosexuality, Clausen then mentions several other countries that have criminalized remarks critical of homosexuality: New Zealand, South Africa, Netherlands and Denmark. In 2004, the Canadian Parliament passed C-250, sponsored by gay legislator Svend Robinson. The legislation added "sexual orientation" to the list of protected minority categories in Canadian law. Because of this new law, religious leaders are fearful of speaking out against homosexuality and, notes Clausen, "Academicians also seem to be feeling the effect: some university professors are scared that the law will threaten free inquiry in the classroom and in their own publications." In one legal case, a Canadian court justified its suppression of free speech because it claimed that criticism of gays impacted an individual's sense of "self-worth and acceptance." The court also listed "self- fulfillment," "self-autonomy," and "self-development," as reasons to suppress free speech in favor of gays. Clausen points out that this argument is seriously flawed because it favors the

speech rights of one group over another. The court also claimed that criticism of homosexuality damaged the "dignity" of gays.

Attack on Private and Home Schools

In March 7, 2007 - Gay activist groups in Ontario urged the Provincial Ministry of Education to exert more control over private and home schools to fight against the alleged effects of homophobia, objecting to religious schools teaching only their own values. An article in Ottawa's Capital Xtra written by Tony Lovink, who describes himself as a gay Christian school teacher, claimed that "All private schools tend to be at least implicitly homophobic. And I would say all religiously formed independent schools are definitely homophobic.

In British Columbia, gay activists Murray Corren and Peter Corren were granted power over the provincial school curriculum as part of a lawsuit settlement. The settlement also introduced a policy prohibiting parents from removing their children from the classroom when gay-affirmative materials were being taught.

Gay activists have demanded that the Federal Human Rights Commissions shut down three pro-family web sites run by Craig Chandler, a Canadian conservative and talk-radio host.

<http://www.cga.ct.gov/2007/JUDdata/Tmy/2007HB-07395-R000326-Rick%20McKinniss-TMY.PDF>

In Canada, in the short time since same-sex marriage has been legalized court action has already been forwarded contesting the legal restrictions against polygamy. The rationale for these court actions are a direct extension of the reasoning used to advance same-sex marriage. If marriage is to be afforded to any two persons who seek such a legal union, then on what logical basis is it to be denied to any three-or four-persons who, for whatever reasons, seek such a union. Once marriage has been removed from its basic binary formulation of a man and a woman entering a solemn covenantal union, who is anyone or any legislative body to limit it?

CALIFORNIA PROP 8 RESEARCH: EFFECTS OF GAY MARRIAGE IN CANADA AND MASSACHUSETTS

<http://www.dailypaul.com/70673/legal-ramifications-of-gay-marriage>

Laws frequently have unforeseen consequences. Such is the case with gay marriage. A study of the effects of the judicial imposition of gay marriage on the people of Canada and Massachusetts provides a clear picture of how it is destroying freedom of speech and threatens our very democratic way of life. Most gays, particularly those who want to marry, are respectful of others views, but the activist Gay Lobby, that is driving the legal battles, has a very different agenda. A study of the world wide consequences of legalization of gay marriage, with particular attention to Canada and Massachusetts, clearly demonstrates that the agenda of the activist Gay Lobby is not granting homosexuals the legal rights associated with marriage but harnessing the power of the state to transform society into their image and suppressing all opposing views. The legal record shows that, given the opportunity they will force their views upon everyone else, including and especially young children. Their objective, as clearly seen in the legal actions taken and the instructional materials being used in the elementary schools, is not tolerance but celebration of homosexuality and gay pride while teaching that opposing views are mean spirited and hateful bigotry. And their attack extends beyond government supported institutions to private and home schools as they seek to deny parents the right to control the moral teaching of their children.

Minnesota testimony

<http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/im-gay-and-i-oppose-gay-marriage/>

This isn't the first time our society has undefined marriage. No-fault divorce, instituted all across our country, sounded like a good idea at the time. Its unintended consequence was that it changed forever the definition of marriage from a permanent relationship between spouses to a temporary one. Sadly, children became collateral damage in the selfish pursuits of adults.

Same-sex marriage will do the same, depriving children of their right to either a mom or a dad.

This is not a small deal. Children are being reduced to chattel-like sources of fulfillment. On one

side, their family tree consists not of ancestors, but of a small army of anonymous surrogates, donors, and attorneys who pinch-hit for the absent gender in genderless marriages. Gays and lesbians demand that they have a “right” to have children to complete their sense of personal fulfillment, and in so doing, are trumping the right that children have to both a mother and a father—a right that same-sex marriage tramples over. Same-sex marriage will undefine marriage and unravel it, and in so doing, it will undefine children. It will ultimately lead to undefining humanity. This is neither “progressive” nor “conservative” legislation. It is “regressive” legislation. Nowhere on any marriage license application in any state are the applicants asked, “Do you love each other?” Yet this is the basis on which same-sex marriage proponents seek to change our laws. Is the state really in the business of celebrating our romantic lives?

What is the definition of a Socio-economic experiment?

Socio-economics can also be called Social economics. “Social economics' may refer broadly to the "use of [economics](#) in the study of [society](#)."^[1] More narrowly, contemporary practice considers behavioral interactions of individuals and groups through [social capital](#) and social "markets" (not excluding for example, [sorting](#) by marriage) and the formation of [social norms](#).^[2] In the latter, it studies the relation of economics to [social values](#).^[3]

In [sociology](#), [sociological theories](#) are statements of how and why particular facts about the social world are related.^[1] They range in scope from concise descriptions of a single social process to paradigms for analysis and interpretation. Some sociological theories explain aspects of the social world and enable prediction about future events,^[2] while others function as broad perspectives which guide further [sociological](#) analyses.^[3]

From: calexto77@gmail.com
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Marriage Equity Act,
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 11:25:42 AM

My name is Alexander Bernisto, me and my family reside in Kailua-Kona, my family and I would like to thanks all our Legislators for their service and their hard work in representing the people of Hawaii. We would like to let them know that we are against the Marriage Equity Act and we hope that our Legislators will vote against it as well.

Thank you very much,
Alexander Bernisto and Family

Committee on Judiciary & Labor

Hearing on Monday, October 28, 2013

Time: 10:30 a.m.

SB 1 Status & Testimony Relating To Equal Rights

Dear Senator Clayton Hee:

I am a voter in Hawaii and I would like to respectfully testify in writing that I do not support the passing of SB 1 regarding same-sex marriage. I believe that this bill is not related to equal rights but is in fact a moral issue which is against my beliefs as a Christian. It is stated in Genesis 1:27-28 and 2:24 that God ordained marriage to be between a man and a woman.

The Civil Union law which was passed by the legislature in 2011 affords the same benefits to same-sex couples as to all married couples in Hawaii, therefore it would be redundant to pass SB 1.

I urge the Legislature to have voters of Hawaii decide the same-sex marriage issue by putting it on the ballot.

Thank you very much for allowing me to testify in writing against SB 1.

May God bless you as you help to guide our State in the coming years.

Sincerely,

Amy Shinagawa

From: [a jones](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: same sex marriage
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 6:22:27 AM

aloha,

please do not pass this bill, if you do it will change the dynamics of god's plan for all of us.

you have an important role not only to the people of Hawaii but also to God. you will be judge accordingly for your decisions as the rest of us.

I pray that you all will make the right decision.

may God bless you, Hawaii and our country!

mahalo for your time concerning this important bill.

Anastasia Jones.

From: [Athan Adachi](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Testimony
Date: Wednesday, October 23, 2013 8:38:56 PM
Attachments: [Hearing JDL 10-28-13.pdf](#)

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair

Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Monday, October 28, 2013

TIME: 10:30 a.m.

PLACE: Auditorium

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

SB1 RELATING TO EQUAL RIGHTS

Testimony

I oppose same sex marriage or any other forms of combination of marriage other than a man and a woman. Yes, I have heard the United States Supreme Court ruled the federal government cannot discriminate against persons on the basis of homosexuality. But just what are we discriminating against the homosexuals by denying them to marry each other? If it is benefits, then pass legislation to give them the same benefits as married couples. Homosexuality is a lifestyle choice, not a civil right. For example, I choose to live in Hawaii therefore I am required to pay income tax. I wish to have the benefit of paying no state income tax as in Alaska and Nevada, but I can't have it unless I choose to move to those states. Homosexuals can choose to marry, if they marry the opposite sex. We are not discriminating homosexuals from marriage. I do not want to legalize any form of marriage other than a man and a woman as it will open the door to other forms of combinations of marriage in the name of discrimination and/or civil rights.

Athan Adachi
1702 Kalaepaa Drive
Honolulu, HI 96819-3011

From: [Audrey Hyde](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Testimony Against the Hawaii Marriage Equity Act of 2013
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 9:52:57 AM

I am Audrey Hyde. I represent my family and traditional marriage.

I am testifying in regards to the Hawaii Marriage Equity Act of 2013, and let it be documented that I personally oppose this bill.

I am opposed to the Act. As a mother of 6 children, I firmly believe that the traditional definition of marriage gives our children the best chance to grow up in a stable environment and become productive members of society. I am also opposed to the Act from a religious standpoint, as I believe that marriage between a man and a woman is an institution defined and ordained by God.

I do not believe that this law will be beneficial to our State, and respectfully ask that you vote against it, or strengthen the religious exemptions in the law.

I appreciate the time you have spent in hearing my position, which is in opposition to the Hawaii Marriage Equity Act of 2013.

Thank You,

Audrey Hyde

From: [Barbara Brown](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 5:05:07 AM

I am submitting this testimony to say that I am against the passing of the Same- Sex Marriage Bill # SB1. I believe that the definition of marriage through the centuries and throughout most of the world has been the joining of a man and a woman. I do not believe that the majority of the people in the state of Hawaii want to change that definition. I also believe that such a major change in our cultural and religious beliefs should not be something decided in a rush special session. We the people of the state of Hawaii should decide this. We do not want our legislators making this decision for us. The possible consequences to our state and country if this bill passes are unbelievable. All you have to do is look at what has happened in places where same- sex marriage has passed, such as in Massachusetts and Canada.

We are being told and that homosexuality is a civil right just like race. You are born into your race, but homosexuality is a choice. You can not change your race, but people move in and out of homosexual lifestyle. I see in this the taking away of the rights of one group and giving them to another. We see the right to express religious beliefs in schools etc taken away, but homosexual behavior is being openly celebrated with parades and gay clubs in schools etc. What is becoming of our country is reminding me of Rome. I believe you can love people and respect them, but you do not have to condone or celebrate their moral choices.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Brown

From: [Brad Barshaw](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Same Sex Marriage Hearing
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 10:05:06 AM

My name is Brad Barshaw and have lived in Hawaii since 1981. My family and I were Family of the Year in Hawaii in 1990 and my wife got the Jefferson Award for Hawaii in 1991 and we have a deep love for the people here. We have fostered 57 children and adopted 3 of those as our own and my wife works in th foster care arena, one of my adopted daughters is a nurse at Queens and my other daughter works with Epic Ohana with kids in the foster care arena. Our church also provides mentors for hurting kids at a local emementary school.

I am a pastor in Kailua and have had the privilege to talking with and helping all types of people including those who struggle with same sex sexual attraction. Though God has given us an amazing ability to love each each other and have authentic and healthy friendships with people of the same sex I believe a line is crossed even just physiologically when same sex people take their love into the sexual and marriage arena. Physiologically and spiritually it is a violation of the creators design and thus ultimately harmful to us physically, emotionally, sociologically and spiritually. We all have unhealthy bents and desires (drugs, lying, stealing, anger, sexual addictions beyond homosexuality etc.) that need to be conttrolled and said no to if we are to pursue and experience the health that comes from following God's principles and design.

I love our state and people. I believe in justice, respect and equal rights for all of us as long as it aligns with that which is beneficial and in sync with God's design and principles as given in the Bible. Please say no to okaying same sex marriage.

Brad Barshaw

Brooke O'Day
874 Kahena St.
Honolulu, HI 96825

October 23, 2013

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
The Honorable Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Hearing Date: Monday, October 28, 2013 at 10:30 am

Re: In **Opposition** to S.B. 1: *The Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013*

Dear Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

I am opposed to S.B.1, The Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013, because it does not fully protect our freedom of religion. While I respect that not everyone shares my religious beliefs, redefining marriage is a religious issue and if passed would infringe on Christian beliefs.

I have read the current form of the Hawaii Marriage Equality Act, and as it currently reads, section 572-G regarding Religious Organizations is vague and may not protect my church's beliefs if challenged. Bishops of my church perform marriages for our members, as well as, non-members. This bill would require our bishops to perform same sex marriages or else risk fines, litigations, and possibly losing non-profit status.

Also, while the bill attempts to protect religious organizations, it mentions nothing of protecting the rights of an individual's religious beliefs. I believe that marriage is a sacred ordinance between a man and a woman. Our country was founded on God and although society's definition of marriage is changing, God's never will.

I urge you to vote **NO** on S.B. 1. Thank you for your time and leadership.

Sincerely,

Brooke ODay
Hawaii Voter

From: [Charles kj Amsterdam](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-InPerson](#)
Subject: Fw: Same-Sex Marriage
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 1:14:09 PM

This is the testimony to be presented at the hearing regarding Same-Sex Marriage by C. Kauai Jochanan Amsterdam on Monday, Oct., 28, 2013. Notice also has been sent verifying that the testimony also will be provided by him in person before the hearing.
Mahalo and Shaloha.

Dear Officer of The Legislature of Hawaii:

Herein is vital knowledge, my request, and my testimony to you.

Mahalo and Shaloha (Shalom and Aloha),

Kauai Jochanan Amsterdam

n Saturday, October 19, 2013 1:37 PM, Charles kj Amsterdam <shaloha1@yahoo.com> wrote:

Same-Sex Marriage's Impact On All Of Hawaii's People

Like most people, my background influences my perspective. Being a Hawaiian Jew, I address the same-sex marriage issue.

First, as part of my Hawaiian heritage's motto, Ua Mau Ka Ea O Ka Aina I Ka Pono, The life of the Land is Perpetuated in Righteousness, emphasizes that behavior be based on righteous, moral, ethical behavior, values, and principles. Such a sense of righteousness goes beyond the right of Hawaiian self-governance within the motto's historical context and is more inclusive as exemplified in the value of Aloha. Such moral behavior provides that the land and life of the people living on the land will be protected and preserved. Such benefits

also are divine and come from G-d. On the other hand, disregarding or dismissing the motto emphasizing moral action or living will result in the withdrawal or elimination of divine protection and preservation of the land and life of people in Hawaii through prevailing danger and destruction. Such danger includes occurrences such as hurricanes, tsunamis, earthquakes, terrorism, militarism, economic hardship, volcanic eruptions, natural disasters, pestilence, etc. In explaining such dangers, I do so with "Aloha" toward all our human ohana and without malice just as I would simply explain the dangerous impact of someone sticking their hand into flowing lava. Therefore, avoiding such danger and enjoying protection and preservation of the land and life of Hawaii's people simply require righteous, moral, and ethical behavior and living of the people of Hawaii.

Secondly, while my Hawaiian heritage emphasizes righteous, moral, and ethical values, behavior, and living, my Jew(ish) heritage clarifies what is and is not morality and righteousness as provided by such sources as prophets, scriptures, inspired sacred writings, reasoning, and revelations from G-d. Such clarification is included by Christians and numerous other entities. Non-righteous behavior included certain relations such as same-sex or gender sexual relations, which is associated with same-sex marriage. While other non-righteous behavior includes dishonesty, corruption, domestic violence, murder, prostitution, physical and mental abuse, etc., same-sex marriage is central and is like the straw that breaks the camel's back. Furthermore, in this situation other supporting factors include that the current Act is unfair and undermines Democracy and the People of Hawaii's choice of preserving the tradition of marriage of a union of one man and one woman as seen in Chapter 572 Marriage, section S572C-2, which the current Act deletes and forces such Hawaii voters to be subjected to same-sex marriage dangers, that the Constitution's protection of religious freedom and the exercise of moral and ethical values predominates over the requirement of equal protection under the Law due to the behavior of same-sex marriage being of a non-moral or non-righteous standard of conduct, and that exemptions for clergy from performing same-sex marriages insufficiently and without impact omits congregants and church values. It's like exempting particular clergy from performing same-sex marriages on the Titanic and dismissing the dangerous Titanic situation, which is analogous to the destructive same-sex marriage situation in Hawaii.

Thirdly, inasmuch as being identified as non-righteous, same-sex marriage violates the moral values expressed in Hawaii's motto and imposes devastating danger on the Land and Life of Hawaii's People. It is an unavoidable righteous, moral value issue, which, as such, if dismissed, will reap Catastrophe and, if honored, will "Perpetuate the Life of the Land".

Shaloha (Shalom and Aloha),
Kauai Jochanan Amsterdam
Leader
Kanaka Maoli Jew

For the Senate hearing: Hearing on 10/28 @ 10:30am

Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am opposing Same Sex Marriage because of our heartfelt concern and compassion for the future of our state. I concern over the physical, mental and emotional problems that will beset those who choose the homosexual lifestyle, and I object to what this will do to our community, my children and to my traditional family life. Evidence clearly show that children must be raised in a traditional family environment to thrive and to grow.

In addition, legalizing Same Sex Marriage will have a negative effect on the liberties of religious freedom, as it relates to what the Bible holds as God's Truth and Christians' freedom to teach from it. Government should never define moral value and limit the teachings of faith group. Legalizing Same Sex Marriage will put a threat to religious freedom.

Therefore, please vote NO on any piece of the Same Sex Marriage bill!

From: [Bishop Carl E. Harris](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Testimony In OPPOSITION to SB1, relating to "Equal Rights"
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 12:47:36 PM

October 24, 2013

To: Senate Judiciary & Labor Committee

From: Carl E. Harris

Re: Testimony In OPPOSITION to SB1, relating to "Equal Rights"

Hearing Day & Date: Monday, Oct. 28th

Hearing Time & Place: 10:30am in the Hawai'i State Capitol Auditorium

To: Chair, Senator Clayton Hee, Vice Chair, Senator Maile S. L. Shimabukuro and members of the Senate Judiciary & Labor Committee,
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I am writing to voice my opposition to Bill SB1 and I am asking you to allow the people to decide on the issue of marriage as I believe the legislature is going against the will of the people. I support equality for all including the rights of conscience and religious freedom, which I ask you to respect as our elected leaders.

I am opposed to the most contentious social issue in our state's history being decided virtually in one week and ask that you please uphold the principles of democracy and the democratic process which are being disregarded in this Special Session.

Regarding the Special Session, this is the first time a Governor has convened a Special Session individually, without a Legislative Vote for the sole purpose of passing a newly introduced bill in nearly 20 years. The Legislature could have called itself into a Special Session but it didn't. I believe not only has Governor Neil Abercrombie overstepped his bounds by calling a Special Session without an agreement of the legislature, but he is also unnecessarily burdening Hawaii taxpayers with yet another debt. Our taxpayer money could have been used to pay off debts rather than making another one. This issue surely could have been addressed in the 2014 Legislative Session.

This bill (SB1) should be given due process during the regular session where it can properly be vetted and examined as all other bills. The people

who elected you to serve as their voices should have a say in public policy that will forever obliterate thousands of years of indigenous and non-native culture, customs and traditions. Your "yes" vote in Special Session is clearly a NO vote to democracy!

IF SB1 were to pass, the legalization of same sex "marriage" would take away my First Amendment rights. The First Amendment states: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof;..." The precedence for this statement is what is going on in all the states where same sex "marriage" has been legalized. The negative effect it will have on our educational system will also be great: the education and indoctrination of our children as early as kindergarten in public schools is the pattern and operation of all other states where same sex marriage has been legalized.

Also, in March 2007, a church group that owns beachfront property in New Jersey wanted to stand for their religious beliefs. They did not want a same sex "civil union" to be performed on their property. In January 2012, a judge ruled that the Ocean Grove Camp Meeting Association's refusal to rent the oceanfront spot to the couple for their same-sex union violated the public accommodation provisions of the state's Law. Churches should be able to use their facilities in a way that is consistent with their beliefs! We should not lose our First Amendment rights just because a small group of people in Hawaii want *special rights*.

The Hawaii Civil Union Law provides all the same rights and benefits of marriage to same sex couples, except the use of the term. The term "marriage" is sacred and should not be used loosely. God has a definition for marriage in the Bible and while not all people read or believe the Bible, society has conformed to God's definition of marriage for over 500 years. Marriage between one man and one woman provides stability for children. Scientific studies with large samplings have found that children do best in families with a father and a mother, (opposite sex couples.)

When we go outside the Creator's intent and parameters for marriage, we are opening the doors for all kinds of destructive and shameless scenarios. We have to maintain a godly standard if we are to prosper here in Hawaii.

In addition, during the extensive civil unions discourse, the ACLU wrote in their testimony that they were going to stop at civil unions and not go on to push same sex "marriage" on the people of Hawaii. We now see that the

ACLU lied to the people of Hawaii. And former Representative Blake Oshiro who now works in the Governor's office said that none of the "horribles" that happened in other states where same sex "marriage" is legal would happen in Hawaii. Mr. Oshiro can't guarantee that. I don't know how he could blatantly lie to the people of Hawaii.

Following the legalization of same sex "marriage" is the prohibiting of the free exercise of religion in every state where same sex "marriage" is legal. I don't want to lose my First Amendment rights. My wife doesn't want to lose her First Amendment rights. As residents, registered voters, citizens, parents, grand-parents, pastors; we have to fight to preserve our godly standards and traditions and uphold the truth that's in the Bible. That's what God has called us to do. Do not as a legislator take away our First Amendment Rights, the First Amendment Rights of all the pastors in Hawaii, the First Amendment Rights of all the religious people in Hawaii and the generations to come. I appeal to you to exercise, integrity and concern for the people of Hawaii and vote NO on same sex "marriage" and that you will let the people decide!

Respectfully,

Bishop Carl E. Harris

Bishop Carl E. Harris

From: [CAROL K. NAKATA](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Re:10/28 Hearing -- TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 2:59:40 PM

Clayton Hee, Chair Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: **TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY**

By: Carol K. Nakata 99-129 Uahi Street Aiea, HI 96701

Dear Honorable Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

Please allow me to share two stories that relate to same-sex marriage. 1) After 9 mos. of pregnancy, my young nephew and his wife were joyfully expecting to welcome their first child. Instead, his wife died during childbirth. The baby, though, survived. This left the husband and extended family with deep grief, and years of coping in hardship. 2) After 8 months of pregnancy, my cousin was expecting to celebrate a new birth. Instead, the baby was delivered dead in a miscarriage.

I cite these stories of real grief & suffering to highlight the risks & sacrifices that heterosexual couples endure in the rendering of their uniquely natural contribution of children to society. Homosexual marriages could never match in value the rigors and expenses borne in heterosexual marriages -- of natural childbearing, of raising kids in homes balanced with the unique traits of male & female parents, and the perpetuation of the human race.

As one who's single, I gladly support any special benefits and rights above my own that we as society grant to traditional couples. They deserve it. The value of their contributions to society are unique, and far exceed what other persons can offer, either singly or as couples.

A true **inequality would result** if this Legislature grants homosexual couples the status of marriage on par with heterosexual couples. It would mean the granting of **equal rights & benefits for unequal contributions**.

Respectfully yours,
Carol K Nakata

From: [Carolee Fernandez](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 2:38:46 PM

Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on
Judiciary and Labor

To begin with I would like to commend you all for your service to Hawaii's people. However, what you are about to do now will have a far-reaching effect on ALL of us. How can you take away the voice of the registered voters in Hawaii? It is so underhanded! You will most certainly lose our trust. We will remember this and I am sure you will each, individually put some of the voters in your districts at odds with you. On top of it all remains the fact that we did vote a constitutional amendment (Art. 1, Section 23) in 1998. This amendment still reads the same. It can not be interpreted any other way.

Do the right thing now--Vote no or let the people's voices be heard.

Mahalo,
Carolee Fernandez
Registered voter

I will praise thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart and I will glorify thy name for evermore. Psalm 86:12

To: The Honorable members of the Senate and the House of the Hawaii State Legislature
From: Caroline Ward Oda – a registered voter
88 Wailupe Circle
Honolulu, HI 96821
Date: October 24, 2013



Re: SB 1 Relating to Equal Rights

I have some deep concerns about SB 1 coming up in the scheduled special session at the end of this month.

I ask that you vote against it for the following reasons:

1- The group in favor of same sex unions – which I also favored - promised a year ago that that would be satisfactory and that they would not push for same-sex marriage.

2-The public accommodation protections for churches are insufficient partly because there is a misunderstanding of "membership" in relation to churches. Churches welcome many people who are not members. For example, our church shows free movies for families in Chinatown once a month. (You can imagine how costly it is for families on limited incomes to go to the movies with four or five people in the group.) We throw a big community fair for Chinatown in the Spring. We also provide a safe Halloween event which was attended by over 300 last year with 500 expected in a few weeks. At all of these events "non-members" are welcome.

3- We also rent our facility to other organizations such as St. Andrew's Priory School which has produced dramas, businesses that have group meetings (as you know there is a shortage of rental meeting spaces downtown) and other churches that have no facility of their own. Renting would mean that we fall under the "public accommodation" definition in the current bill.

4-The fourth reason I ask you to vote against the bill is that by extending the definitions of protection for sexual orientation, currently a protected class, as the bill does, the freedoms proscribed for that group transgress freedom of speech.

In a nation where we can burn the flag, put bomb-making instructions on the internet and display profanity on bumper stickers, our freedom of speech should not be curtailed by designating a group so protected that other opinions cannot be shared.

Again, I ask that you defeat SB 1.

Thank you,

Caroline Ward Oda

From: pukamail@yahoo.com
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Aloha. Same Sex Bill
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 10:39:57 PM

Aloha.

Firstly, Thank you for all the hard work and dedication to all of the people of Hawaii. I would like to discuss the same sex bill and how it uniquely effects our State.

Is the motivating factor behind this bill to receive federal dollars? This certainly is not for equality for all as this bill has been presented to the public. I can't understand how politicians seem to deceive the public for personal gain or power.

Think about this, are not bills passed by majority vote? Is not the president and all public positions elected by a majority vote. Why, because they are to represent the public democracy. I think the government has redefined democracy to whatever is mainstream at the time. The majority of taxpayers in Hawaii have voted against this bill, but politics seem to ignore this fact. The guise of this particular bill indicates equality for all. Lets review some fact:

1. Majority of voters in Hawaii overwhelmingly disagree that this bill is the best interest for the state. 70% said no to your bill.
2. Those majority of voters are not necessarily Christian, they could be of no religious affiliation.
3. Homosexual population are less than 10%, nationwide. The percent of the population who are looking for these equal rights are even less.
4. This bill will effect the remaining percent, 90%?
5. This bill will unequally benefit a very small portion of the population.
6. Homosexuals can already be married through a civil union ceremony, I am not clear the purpose of this bill is for equality or a soapbox to persecute any person who opposes them.
7. All of the children in public schools will be forced homosexual objectives, even against parents wishes. Homosexual books, no more celebrations of Mothers or Fathers days in elementary or middle schools because it oppresses homosexual rights under the new law. Even when less then 10% of the population is homosexual and even less than that are actually married. What about the man who wanted to marry his goat (this is a true story, unfortunately). Would we pass a equality bill to include marriages between animals and people? What I am saying is how far is this going to go?
8. Freedom of religion and religious persecution is a part of our constitution and bill of rights. Passing this law will persecute all religions who oppose that lifestyle. Religious people are not oppressing homosexuals personally, but oppose to being forced to participate in their lifestyle. We should be protected in America to exercise our given rights, no new laws should supersede that basic right. It's law is being placed as to oppress all religions and have a platform to legally harm all who oppose them. May I remind you that this percent is probably less than 5% of the population, so 5% can oppress 95%. Does this seem fair? Not to me.
9. The separation of church and state goes both ways. Keep your state out of my church.
10. Those who may agree with this bill might not be thinking about the percussion of future events. This is not just a religious rejection of this bill. This bill sets up the 95% for a plethora of future petty lawsuits from homosexuals who didn't get their photo in newspapers or equal rights to Christmas specials and radio and tv time, etc. anyways, there will be a huge opening of frivolous "they hurt my feelings" "I didn't get my fair share" complaining. This bill so guaranteeing all homosexuals the right to sue anyone if they perceive disagreement with them, they will use this bill to purposely oppress all people, sort of a "payback for all those folks who hurt their feelings their whole life". I'm sorry, they are a bunch of babies always crying about their rights. If your gay, then be gay. Homosexuals just want to use a law to oppress non-homosexuals. How has homosexuals convince you politicians that they just want equality. I know its not about equality. its about them forcing their lifestyle into the forefront of society, even if they are a small part of society. Why do you have to pass this particular law for them to be equal? If its about insurance or money, then pass a bill to allow partners to receive retirement benefits and what not other benefits. Marriage does not necessarily guarantee homosexuals that life will work out perfectly, they will be just as susceptible to

divorce than all other couples. Studies prove that divorce in homosexual couples equal hetero divorces.

11. What about my free speech rights? Now will I be prohibited from saying I don't agree with the gay lifestyle? Why isn't it my right to disagree, and I quietly disagree only to myself. I don't agree with people marrying animals either. Will I be fined or go to jail if I say so? What if I write a letter to the editor in the newspaper saying the same, will I be arrested? This bill is removing my basic rights as a American. Too oppressive society and overly governed. This small percent of society is controlling the majority, this is not about equality. It's about controlling hetero and anti homosexual behavior. It's about favoring less than 5% of the population over the rest, it's not right. I agree that no one should oppress homosexuals, but I disagree with legislation to give a format to control every personal right that has been in effect in this country since inception for all people. Homosexuals have all the rights to put heterosexuals down and say "you hate us, etc." which is not true. They can say anything to us, but if they are slightly offended, they will sue. This law is wrong. I love my homosexual family members, but I still disagree with homosexual marriage. I should be allowed to think so in this country, unless I am living in a communist state.
12. Homosexuals are covered by the civil rights laws anyways, why do they need more legislation? Why does the laws have to be only for gay people? This is so odd that our country is favoring such a small community. I have never seen any homosexual oppressed. All prior laws have been passed by the majority, allow the voting record stands, Hawaii voted no to this bill. you should be better representatives and listen to what They function just as all citizens do without any interruption. Why does there need to be offensive legislation to every person who is not gay? Why not just add addendum to the civil rights bills? Homosexuals are not oppressed as a whole, as African Americans were pre civil rights days. Homosexuals have all the rights as anyone does. There is no real evidence that this extreme of a law must be put into effect. Tax law, inheritance laws, benefits laws, etc can be changed then making a overlying law into effect that essentially oppresses the masses who are not homosexual. This is wrong.
13. I reject any legislation that prohibits me from practicing my religion, freedom of speech, freedom of choice. I should be able to defend my position without being forced by law and threat of lawsuits. I already have to include homosexuals at work, in the community, and every part of American life, why now do I have to include homosexual advantage into my personal life and religion by force. Everything has been working fine in society up to now, this law is too vague and too overly general and it oppresses more people than it is intending to serve. The civil rights of homosexuals should be protected, like serving at a restaurant or other establishment. But when you tell me I cannot object to how I live my life is too personal, if a owner of a private establishment does not want to serve homosexuals due to their religious beliefs, should be allowed to do so, because they are not a public entity or a government entity. I do not oppress homosexuals, but they are trying to oppress me. They use the Christians as a whipping post, but all major religions object to homosexual marriage. Homosexuals were around during biblical times, look at Sodom and Gomorrah and how young boys were forced into sexual slavery and raped because it was a belief that it was their civil right in their society. Where does the morals stand in society? Where is it going in our State? I do not oppress homosexuals because it is within my religion not to hate the sinner, but tell the truth in love. This whole bill is wrong, it oppresses the majority, it oppresses my right to religion.
14. I do not think this law is to everyone's benefit. A new more inclusive law that allows rights already guaranteed by law that this new law cannot supersede.
15. It is not true that heterosexuals are separating "homosexual families". Family should be ohana, be who you are. Hawaii has traditionally accepted all kinds of families. It is unfair to throw that accusation out there, that is a dramatic act to gain acceptance, but is not true. A dirty tactic.

Keep the vote of the majority of this states rights valid. We don't want it in our schools, in our hospitals, in our churches. Stop this favoring one group over the other for greedy benefit of federal dollars.

Keep your state out of my religion.

Sincerely,

Carrie Ehrgott

Taxpayer

Citizen

Opposer of this particular bill

Voter who is not afraid to vote for someone else next round

Sent from my iPad

From: [Katie J](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 7:07:29 AM

To: Clayton Hee, Chair and The State Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Date and Time of Hearing: Monday, October 28th, 10:30 a.m.

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the State Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I, Catherine Jacobsmeyer, admit right up front that my opposition to the Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013 is based in part on my spiritual/religious beliefs. I acknowledge that there are those in Hawaii who do not share my religious beliefs, but I want you to know I feel very strongly that this act is wrong, and its passage would be a serious mistake. My husband, my five children, and I are all opposed to same-sex marriage. We believe that we are a "nation under God," and as such, we will receive blessings as we obey His commandments. We believe marriage between a man and woman is ordained of God, and that sexual activity should only occur between a man and woman who are married. We also believe that God's doctrines don't change, even when man's views change with the times. Our opposition to this legislation does not reduce our regard for all people, including individuals burdened by same sex attraction. However, as residents of Hawaii, we ask that you do not legalize same-sex marriage in this state.

Marriage between a man and woman is and always has been the basic building block for human civilization and is the natural medium by which God intends for His children to come into the world and be nurtured to adulthood. Children are entitled to birth and rearing within the bonds of matrimony between a man and a woman. This union does far more than merely meet the needs of the involved adults. While the long term results of a child's being reared in a same sex marriage have not been completely explored, I intuitively shudder to think of the possible negative effects and havoc it might wreak. I acknowledge the high number of single parents who are rearing children and doing an excellent job. I also acknowledge that the motivated single parent can often compensate for the missing role model of the mother or the father in the children's lives. But I'm most concerned about the parental model consisting of a

same-sex couple's being deeply implanted in the child's mind through parental modeling. This unnatural imprint and influence may have lasting and devastating consequences.

I grew up in a household where my sister struggled with same-sex attraction. Whether this condition was "foisted off" on her without her having played any causative role or not, she has the agency to decide her behavior. I believe in her case and with many others, they would have it the other way if they could. I acknowledge that living out one's life and trying to maintain the moral standard of chastity—in this case celibacy—is most difficult. But it is possible, and I feel strongly that when a couple—whether they be homosexual or heterosexual—has sexual relations outside of marriage, they are guilty of breaking a fundamental and most vital principle of God's law.

This issue is bigger than the question of whether society should be more tolerant. If passed, this act would infringe on religious freedom and redefine marriage, creating a new "civil right." I rue the day when a judicial court of the land decides to penalize our churches because we refuse full religious privileges to same sex couples living together. I know that our church will never—and I emphasize never—acknowledge same-sex marriage as being morally correct. I regard the Hawaii Equality Marriage Act of 2013 as a real potential violation of our basic First Amendment rights. In addition, my family and I feel the rights embodied in Amendment I, which also guarantee religious freedoms to those involved in businesses and other organizations must be preserved. If this legislation passes, we ask for stronger exemptions for religious clergy, religious institutions, religious facilities, and small businesses than are currently proposed. We urge that these exemptions be extended to all people and organizations of faith, so as to protect religious groups from being required to support, condone, or perform same-sex marriages or to host same-sex marriages in their facilities. We must protect individuals and small businesses from being required to assist in promoting or celebrating same-sex marriages.

Finally, as a mother of five wonderful daughters, I am haunted by the possible negative effects that the passing of this bill could have on them. After studying some of these negative effects that are happening in states such as Massachusetts, I have decided that I do not want that for my children. If passed, the teaching that same-sex marriage is normal would permeate into our schools and reach impressionable children as young as four years of age. It would also infect our public libraries, our media, our businesses, and our churches.

I plead with you. Please consider our views and oppose this bill. Thank you.

Catherine P. Jacobsmeyer

From: [Cecilia Mukai](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: SB 1 - RELATING TO EQUAL RIGHTS - VOTE "NO"
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 1:52:05 PM

Aloha, Hawaii Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee

I wish to register my **opposition** to the passage of **SB 1**. I believe the "equal rights" being promoted is the overstepping of the rights of the majority of Hawaii citizens, who already voted for the institution of marriage to be between a husband and a wife, by that of a minority.

Hawaii has been called the "Health State" and statistics supports better health outcomes of families with a father and mother in the home. Let's keep Hawaii healthy.

I urge you to vote against SB 1.

Mahalo,
Cecilia Mukai
19 Hualilili St.
Hilo, HI 96720

From: [Celeste Tefan](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: I oppose the bill regarding same sex marriage
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 11:25:47 AM

My name is Celeste Tefan and I am a wife and homemaker.

I am testifying in regards to S.B. NO. 1, and let it be documented that I personally oppose this bill and any fraction thereof.

I believe in traditional marriage and do not agree with same sex marriage. I have been learning about this new proposed bill and do not believe that it protects MY rights and religious freedoms so I am STRONGLY OPPOSED to it. The people of Hawaii have voted on this issue before! Why does it keep popping up again? And why is our vote as a populace not being taken into consideration?

I appreciate your time and pray that my religious beliefs will be protected, and that this current bill will not pass.

Thank you very much,

Celeste Tefan
91-1752 Paeko St.
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

From: [Hotmail](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Say NO to SB1
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 6:11:44 PM

Greetings,

In his "letter from Birmingham jail" Martin Luther King Jr. wrote about something he called "just" and "unjust" laws. He made a clear distinction between both of them.

In his words: "A just law is a man made code that squares with the moral law or the law of God. An unjust law is a code that is out of harmony with the moral law."

According to the Bible, marriage is ordained by God to be between a man and a woman. The Biblical viewpoint of marriage has been the universal understanding of marriage in every human civilization in world history.

I believe in the sanctity of marriage as that loving union between one man and one woman. Anything less, in my eyes, would be "out of harmony with the moral law" or the law of God.

As my voice in government, I urge you to support what we know as truth, traditional marriage.

Sincerely,
Charleen Kageno

From: [Charles Scalera](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Say "NO" to same-sex marriage.
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 9:40:38 AM

Say "NO" to same-sex marriage.

These islands are special in God's eyes. Please keep them that way. These islands have a lot to work on but we have always tried to do what is right in the sight of GOD. I know everyone has heard the saying God created Adam and Eve, GOD did not create Adam and Steve. (Genesis Chapter 1). This not a joke it is the truth. The scriptures below are what HE has said. Let's us as a small island speak loudly and stand before a big Nation and declare that these islands have integrity and morals and will still Love and Serve a GOD according to HIS words.

Again, Please vote "NO" to same-sex marriage

Please read the scriptures below to see what God says about same-sex marriage.

Genesis Chapter 18 and Chapter 19

[Genesis Chapter 18](#) **[Genesis 19](#)**

[Isaiah Chapter 20](#)

[Isaiah Chapter 24](#)

[Isaiah Chapter 41](#)

[Isaiah Chapter 51](#)

[Ezekiel Chapter 26](#)

[Romans Chapter 1](#)

<http://www.biblegateway.com/>

Aloha and God Bless

Charles and Shanna Scalera

From: [Charles Hughes](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 7:05:22 PM

Charles T. Hughes, II
66 Queen St #2803, Honolulu, HI 96813
October 24, 2013
RE: Special Session for Same Sex Marriage

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am writing you to share my thoughts on the Special Session on Same Sex Marriage.

I am a christian and love all of God's children including those who support Same Sex Marriage. I believe in equal rights for all and believe God made the sacred union of marriage for one man and one woman. I am opposed to the Same Sex Marriage Bill and disagree with the Governor in calling a special session. By the calling of a special session I do not believe it will allow all parties and their elected officials to fully vet the full ramifications of this issue. The case studies of how this issue has changed the school system in Canada and Massachusetts and both parental rights and religious freedom is disconcerting. It is for these reasons that I do not support the Same Sex Marriage Bill.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and for reading my email.

Peace be with you as you make your difficult decision.

United we stand, one nation, under GOD!

[Charles T. Hughes II](#)
cthii54@yahoo.com

From: [Charles Hughes](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 7:05:22 PM

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United we stand, one nation, under GOD!

[Charles T. Hughes II](#)
cthii54@yahoo.com

From: [janell.beattie](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 2:03:27 AM

Oct. 25, 2013

To: Senate Judiciary & Labor Committee
From: Christian & Janell Beattie
Re: In Strong OPPOSITION to SB1, relating to "Equal Rights"
Hearing Day & Date: Monday, Oct. 28th
Hearing Time & Place: 10:30 A.M. in the Hawai'i State Capitol Auditorium

To Chair, Senator Clayton Hee, Vice Chair, Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro and members of the Senate Judiciary & Labor Committee

We are Christian & Janell Beattie, husband and wife. We are testifying on the measure SB1. We are in strong OPPOSITION to SB1.

The Supreme Court has already said that gay rights is not a civil rights issue. Therefore, we believe that by legalizing gay marriage, you would be trying to normalize or legitimize this lifestyle and behavior. This lifestyle is not normal. With this lifestyle comes many physical consequences such as: HIV, HSV, Syphilis, Rectal Gonorrhea, Rectal Chlamydia, Urethral CT & Gc, Pharyngeal Gonorrhea. It takes a man and a woman to procreate. God intended it that way. Babies cannot come from two males or two females. If you legalize gay marriage, it would be detrimental to our society, our state, our children. Homosexuals will have the right to come into our public schools and teach children that homosexuality is accepted. Would you want your children to learn that lifestyle is normal?

Homosexuality Is NOT NORMAL. In 1998, the people of Hawaii already decided to oppose same sex marriage. We did not give the legislature the power to redefine marriage. Let the people of Hawai'i vote! If you do your research where other states have legalized same sex marriage, you will see the destruction it is causing to their citizens including their children.

In closing, we both are **STRONGLY URGING YOU TO VOTE NO TO SB1!**

Sincerely,
Christian & Janell Beattie
324 Olomana Street
Kailua, HI 96734
620-0939

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLWebTestimony](#)
Cc: kahukuborn@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)*
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 10:36:01 AM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/27/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Benjamin Faustino	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLWebTestimony](#)
Cc: tinanozawa@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (In Person)
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 10:32:10 AM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/27/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Christina Taosoga	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I oppose this bill. I am also in total shock and disbelief that you all have not let this issue be voted on by the people of Hawaii. This is not an issue that should be decided on in a special session. I will be there to testify and I will be more than happy to voice my stand on this issue. Auwe! Shame on all of you for taking away the right to vote from the PEOPLE OF HAWAII!!!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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

From: [Mr. Lowe, Musical Theater Instructor](#)
To: [JDLTestimony; jdsstestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:jdsstestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)
Subject: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 9:55:24 AM

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor & Honorable Chairs Rhoads, Luke and Members of the House Judiciary and Finance Committee:

This is a government for the people, of the people and by the people. After all, people put you where you are and allow you to be paid to sustain yourselves and your families. Your job is to listen to the people and vote according to the will of the majority of the people. After all, majority rules. We propose that law makers vote NO on this measure and create the opportunity for this issue to be presented as a ballot issue that the people of Hawaii can vote on. It costs money to do a special session, so if you are willing to spend money on a special session, then you must be equally willing to put this issue to a vote of the people.

Our gay brothers and sisters are equally protected under the constitution. This is not a fight about anger or discrimination against the gay community. This is a stand for moral principle and the health of society that is conducive to the well being of children being raised by one man (father) and one woman (mother). The institution of marriage between a man and a woman has a higher purpose than just "love".

We testify that the sacred powers of procreation are to be employed only between a man and a woman, lawfully wedded as husband and wife. This is the only ordained means whereby children are created and brought to the earth. There is no other way.

You will do damage to the fundamental unit of society and bring about confusion, costly, negative consequences and ills to the individuals and people of this state with this bill. You will DO RIGHT to strengthen society and protect the sanctity of marriage (1man+1woman) and family when you - LET THE PEOPLE VOTE ON MARRIAGE.

Sincerely and respectfully yours,
Christopher Lowe
Saofai Lowe
AlemaMax Lowe
Marann Lowe
Faith Lowe

From: [CLINE ARDO](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 9:06:01 AM

From:
Cline D. Ardo
3625 Alani Drive
Honolulu, Hi 96822

Karl Rhoads and Sylvia Luke, Chair
House Judiciary Committee, House Finance Committee
Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chiars Rhoads and Luke and Members of House Judiciary and Finance Committees:

I am opposed to this bill and its re-defining of marriage to include same-sex couples. The effects would be devastating to island families and their future generations. It is a slippery slope that once we start down it there will be no turning back. One would just need to look closely at the states that have enacted this as legislation to see the "hand-cuffing" effects it will have on religious freedoms and rights as parents/grandparents in raising our keiki according to what we believe is right and true.

The will of the Hawaii people was already expressed already by voters as keeping marriage defined as between one man and woman. It is really a travesty that only a handful of legislators will decide the outcome of whether this becomes law or not. It should be a decision of all the people of Hawaii, especially regarding legislation that will have far reaching effects into our families and generations to come.

We should not simply jump on the band wagon because other states have done so, this does not make it right. Hawaii should stand up for what is right, which my family and I entirely believe is a bill that should not become a law.

Respectfully Submittted,
Cline D. Ardo

From: [Clive Cowell](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: RELATING TO EQUAL RIGHTS
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 8:04:38 AM

I wish to submit to the following testimony.

First, of all I wish to apologize for remarks made in our community that are derogatory to other human beings. Names, slurs and disgust aimed at others should have no place if we are to treat each other in love. I state my own apology because I see myself as a part of this community, not a separate being. We can do better and must do better if we are to treat one another in love. When I read and hear comments that are disparaging, I hold my own head in shame. I apologize.

Second, I wish to present my voice in opposition to the recognition of marriage between same sexes. Here is why. My argument is philosophical, rooted in how I see God theologically; it is based on the notion of His expression of love.

I thank you greatly for taking the time to read this testimony. It is a privilege, and one I am thankful for. Thank you for your service to others.

Again, here is my testimony of opposition against what is known as "Same sex marriage."

C.S. Lewis wrote that the words from the Bible,

"'God is love' have no real meaning unless God contains at least two persons. Love is something that one person has for another person. If God was a single person, then before the world was made, He was not love.'" Mere Christianity, (San Francisco, Harper Collins, 1980), 1974.

If we are to understand that 'God is love,' as presented from the Bible in 1 John 4:8, we must acknowledge or reject that position. If we accept that God is love, we must also accept that He was a being of 'two' in the beginning. If not from the beginning, then, again, God could not have been love.

Of course, C.S. Lewis was referring to God the Father, and God the Son, namely, Jesus Christ, as the two eternal beings - who loved each other as Father and as a beloved Son; from the beginning and, even until this time. The role of the Holy Spirit, another being, was to communicate that love; *as spirit speaks to spirit*. With these three beings, we understand that there is perfect love. A Father and a Son, and One (the Holy Spirit) that communicates the love between the two.

To continue, God expresses Himself personally as Father, Son and Holy Spirit in mutual love and glory. The "oneness" of God implies His inherent unity and equality; God is "*wholly other*" in union and communion.

Having established, by way of amplifying the Biblical text, the notion that God is "*wholly other*" it should be noted that God's giving love is not exclusive for He expresses His love by creating "*all things, visible and invisible*." The Triune God called all of creation into existence – "*and it was good*". His loving desire was to create a universe with relational beings (the male-female "*man*") in His own image and to enjoy all that He had created – "*and it was very good*". Why? Because the Father wanted to share His Son with others in His creation in order to spread the goodness of their own shared love and glory, and to offer His Son a beautiful bride, perfectly suited to Him:

"For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his

wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church." Ephesians 5:31-32.

The end of the Bible is instructive:

"Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb." Revelation 21:9.

True human love must always have Christ as its ultimate focus (as the Father's love for the Son sets out) and its greatest priority (as we were made by God to be lovers of God). True love is that He (the Father) accepts us IN CHRIST; he values us IN Christ; and he forgives us IN Christ) as opposed to a human-focused-separate from God 'love' which is all about, and only, "us", "us", "us". The objects of our worship are not each other, nor the self, but the Father and the Son; this is true love. The Spirit is the One who inspires and enables us to worship in such a way.

God wanted His love to be eternally spread out among His creation desiring man *and* woman to freely have Christ as the ultimate focus (as the Father's love for the Son sets out) and greatest priority (as we were made by God to be lovers of God). Yet in that freedom man and woman, replaced Christ as the focus embracing the Serpent's call (See Genesis 3) to be like God themselves [God's freedom even allowed the one originally intended to lead worship and love of God to turn inwardly and away from God, Ezekiel 18].

In responding to the call and becoming self-lovers, the male and female abused their moral freedom and rebelled against God, thus destroying the loving holy union they originally enjoyed with Him; they were no longer loyal to God and they had broken loyalty to each other. The loving life of fellowship they previously enjoyed was broken and resulted in eternal separation; they were now spiritually dead, giving birth to Spirit-less people; self-loving people. Their focus was and continues to be a focus on the self, and the greatest priority is the self – such is the nature of their deadness. The ultimate expression of this is to love and serve the self – the Greek word *homo*: *meaning same* would express such a notion. By way of contrast, when tempted by the devil, the Son remained loyal to the Father, and even when the Son took the sin of the world upon Himself on the cross, the Father remained loyal to the Son.

My testimony is that God is love. More importantly, that testimony is itself from the Bible, so, 1 John 4:8. My testimony is that God's love is creative. The notion of His love is one of union and communion. That can only be expressed in otherness, not in sameness. God is "*other*" focused, or to use the Greek term, God is "*hetero*" in His outward focus. This is what He is. What is God *not*? God is not "*self-serving*" or to use the Greek term "*homo*." Love that is relationally only toward the same, i.e., *homo*, will never be creative. And if not creative, then while those beings may 'love' each other, they will not, nor never can they be creatively loving, in and of themselves; even if they express, "*we have love*."

God created beings to love "*the other*", meaning he created a male to love a female. This is how we can picture "*otherness*". These male-female creatures were made not just to love each other, but to be in union with God as a male-female oneness. In that oneness they are to be Christ's *other* love. That is to say, Christ and the male-female are the *relational image of God*. This is very good in God's eyes.

Anything different runs counter to God's stated desires. It is why God paints such striking tones in both the Old Testament and New Testament.

"Do not practice homosexuality, having sex with another man as with a woman. It is a detestable sin." Leviticus 18:22

"If a man practices homosexuality, having sex with another man as with a woman, both men have committed a detestable act. They must both be put to death, for

they are guilty of a capital offense." Leviticus 20:13

"those who practice homosexuality... none of these will inherit the Kingdom of God"
1 Cor. 6:9-11.

"men who practice homosexuality, ... contrary to sound doctrine." 1 Tim. 1:8-10.

Ultimately, our relationship in God is based on a submission to the *other*, namely, God. If we are to circumvent that position, by claiming equality with God, we discount Him as God. Such an effort is our effort to be the same as Him. Such an effort, such a desire, is to be *homo*, that is, "*same*".

But we are not God. He is.

He wants us in relationship with Him, even though, and this shows His amazing love, even though we want to be God. He offers that relationship to us, even though we are *hetero* to Him. This is part of His love. He loves the *other*.

The LORD God invites such a relationship, but it necessarily requires a change of heart in how we view ourselves. For God will not encounter that which is against His own desires, will, and Kingdom. There can only be One God, and no other God.

Our image of our self is tragically polluted. We believe that we can aspire to "*great*" heights if we bring about equality as we see it. Yet such a road, if traveled, will always run away from our true humanity *in God*.

I state "no" to the recognition of what is known as same sex marriage.

In love, and, as I see it, from a standpoint of what the Bible proclaims, I make these statements.

More importantly, beyond my testimony, is the call for our community to look to His own words, the Bible; a greater testimony than mine.

Clive M. Cowell

From: [Crystal Dohie](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Testimony on Senate Bill 1, "Equal Rights"
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 7:16:23 AM

Honored Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

I am very troubled by this bill, ironically named, "Equal Rights." We were told that equal rights was what the Civil Union bill was supposed to accomplish. This bill under review now crosses the line and penalizes those whose consciences and opinions disagree with the LGBT. Freedom of thought, freedom of religion, freedom of speech, property rights are all in peril with this law that could make mere disagreement a crime. This is not "equal rights." This is an assault on freedom of conscience.

It is a travesty against the good people of Hawaii to put this kind of burdensome yoke on their back. Mainland agenda can stay on the mainland. Hawaii has always been a welcoming place of aloha to all people everywhere. We do not need this kind of legislation. It is insulting and discriminatory.

Please throw out this bill. Thank you.

--

Crystal Dohie

From: [Dale Hammond](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Bill 1, Special Session of Legislature
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 12:02:41 PM

Senator Clayton Hee
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
Senate Bill 1
Monday, October 28, 2013
10:30 a.m.
Auditorium, State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

We are Dale & Carol Hammond, representing ourselves from Laie of your district

We are testifying on Bill 1 of the Special Session called by Governor Ambercrombie.

We are adamantly opposed to the passage of Bill 1 dealing with the legalization of same gender marriage for the following reasons:

1. Our major objection is that same gender marriage is offensive in the eyes of God, who created the Earth for the benefit of man and decreed in the Garden that marriage should be between a man and a woman for the procreation of the species and for the benefit of the children. However, we realize that many people now-a-days have lost respect for God and drifted away from his Gospel. How they live their lives is up to them, but the majority are still God fearing people and their conscience is opposed to this action.
2. However, from a human cultural perspective, from the beginning of society thousands of years ago, nearly all cultures have recognized that to preserve their society, it was necessary to procreate the species, which obviously is only possible between a male and a female partner. In addition, a formalized association between those two individuals was found necessary for the well being of the society and the proper upbringing of the offspring from that procreation. Thus, marriage between a man and a woman has been with us from the very beginning of society and has been shown time after time to be of the greatest advantage to a well functioning society. And, until very recently, from a historical perspective, divorce was either not allowed or was very difficult to obtain, in order to preserve the society. Since the arrival of no fault divorce, society has significantly gone down hill.
3. Modern scientific study has shown that males and females are hard wired from before birth to bring different and complimentary characteristics to that association. When both are functioning in their proper roles the children of that marriage stand a far better chance of contributing to society rather than becoming problems to such. When either the mother or the father vacates the home, by divorce, desertion, etc., the children suffer, and it is most often that the father is unfortunately absent from the home and the mother is left to fend on her own. Examine the following statistics from Government and scholarly research on the absence of a father in the home (The source is the Hutchison Report, Oct. 22, 2013, individual references are given with each statistic:

EFFECTS OF A FATHERLESS HOME, Pastor Hutchinson report, The Blaze.com, Tuesday, October 22, 2013)

63% of youth suicides are from fatherless homes. (US Dept. Of Health & Census)
80% of rapists with anger problems are from fatherless homes. (Justice & Behavior V14)
70% of children w/ involved father less likely to drop out of school. (Nat. Household Ed.

Survey)

75% of teens in chem. abuse centers from fatherless homes. (Rainbows for all God's children)

53% teen girls from fatherless homes more likely to marry as teens. (Parents & Prisons Policy Rev. 2003)

71% of girls from fatherless homes more likely to have kids as teens. (Ibid)

164% of girls from fatherless homes more likely to have premarital sex. (Op.Cit.)

92% of teens from fatherless homes more likely to divorce even if do get married. (Parents, op cit)

90% of homeless and run-aways are from fatherless homes. (US Dept. Justice, Sp Rep, 1988)

71% of pregnant teens are from fatherless homes. (Dept. Of Health & Human Services)

Do you think that not having a father in the home affects our next generation?

We know that many valiant single women work very hard to overcome these disadvantages of not having a father in the home and do very well. That is why the statistics are not higher, but the statistics are there and society suffers as a result of not having so many fathers in the home. Bill 1 will only contribute of these homes.

4. Same gender relationships DO NOT convey that same stability to society. Two women can not make up for the lack of the influence of a man in the home, and two men can not compensate for the lack of influence of a woman in the home. The result is not the same and this has been recognized from the beginning of society on this earth.

5. One of the most profound concerns of the Founding Fathers of this nation was that of conscience! Under King George, conscience was not allowed! It was his way all the way. From the beginning of this nation conscience has been inviolate! The first amendment was specifically proposed to protect conscience! This principle of conscience has served this nation for nearly 250 years. But now it is being seriously attacked! Because of the complications of the necessity of exemptions for religious organizations, their facilities and any ancillary organization associated with them, passage of the bill will be a nightmare for a large portion of the people of Hawaii whose conscience requires them to follow the laws of God. These individuals will now be inundated with lawsuits, as has been evidenced in other areas of the country where same gender marriage has been passed. In addition, LGBT doctrine will be forced into being taught in the schools systems, forcing people of conscience to pull their children out of the public schools and either home school them or pay for private school systems.

6. Lastly, all this is being pushed by a very small minority of the population of this state and of the nation, whose admitted goal is to teach their lifestyle in the schools and make it respectable in America. It is estimated that those involved in the LGBT movement of Hawaii are less than 1,000 individuals, and constitute 0.002% of the population of Hawaii. In this case, it is not just the tail that is wagging the dog, it is a few hairs on the tail that are wagging the dog. In a republic like America, the laws are controlled by the majority, and the majority are not in favor of this bill, as evidenced by their past actions.

This bill represents a very serious change to the laws of Hawaii, more serious than any thing that has ever come before the legislature. Since the effects are so far reaching to all concerned, this should be decided by a proposal put before the people of Hawaii in the 2014 election.

We strongly oppose Bill 1 of the Special Session of the Hawaii Legislature and strongly encourage you to vote NO on this bill and to support a proposal for the people of Hawaii to

determine this in the 2014 election.

Thank you

Dale & Carol Hammond
55-705 Wahinepee St
Laie, HI

From: [Dan Gubler](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Opposition to Bill in Special Legislative Session
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 9:10:44 PM

Aloha,

My name is Dan Gubler and I am a resident of Oahu, Hawaii. I am testifying on the state measure before the Senate on Marriage Equality. I am testifying in opposition to this bill.

I have researched and compared Hawaii's marriage equality act to that of other states and find that Hawaii's is far too intrusive on the rights of independent organizations of faith.

I myself attend a church that does not endorse same-gender marriages yet our clergy will be forced to perform them or face legal action. I feel that the freedom of worship how we please in our private church facilities is just as important as that of public accommodations, separate but equal.

Please take into account what the majority of the people of Hawaii want when you consider this bill. I feel strongly that your voting public do not agree with the current version of this bill.

Mahalo for your service.

Dan Gubler
55-463 Moana Street
Laie, Hawaii 96762
808-234-9128

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLWebTestimony](#)
Cc: darrell808+pono@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 2:23:49 PM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/24/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Darrell Kim	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am opposed to SB1 because of the following points: 1) This important issue should not have been rushed through a special session, but rather should have been discussed in a regular session with more opportunity for public input, or even better, put up for vote by the people in a constitutional amendment; 2) Doctrinally this bill does not align with my religious beliefs on marriage; 3) I believe that if SB1 is passed, that there are not enough religious protections included, this will take away the ability for me and my family to enjoy our religion the way we do today. Mahalo, Darrell Kim

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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

From: [Darryl Willis](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: SB1
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 3:29:26 PM

Clayton Hee, Chair

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor

My name is Darryl Willis, and I live at 340 Kapii Place, Hilo, HI 96720.

I would like to voice my opposition to SB1 Relating to Equality.

This is an important issue that should be taken up with a lot of time, thought and input from the people. This is how our democracy was meant to work. However, a special session treats the issue lightly in the sense that it is a rush job, and does not give ample consideration that other bills receive in a regular session. This bill at the very least needs the full consideration that a regular legislative session would provide. It is so important, it would even be better to put it on a ballot, and let the people decide directly. This is not a civil rights issue as the proponents say. It is about changing the definition of marriage.

I have 2 grandsons, both innocent and beautiful little boys, not yet in school, but that is not far off. It is a horrible thought that someday if this bill passes, they could and probably would be taught in school that same-sex relations are OK. It is wrong and clearly violates nature. The picture of my grandsons sitting in class learning instructions about homosexual acts is very distressing. This is the future if this bill passes. It's already happening elsewhere. This is about the proper definition of marriage being between one man and one woman. It is about our legacy of raising our families in a civil and moral society. Government has an obligation to the people to protect and maintain a society that is optimal for families and raising children. Changing the definition of marriage will cause this to decay.

Government can still find a way to provide benefits to same-sex couples. The alteration of the definition of marriage is not necessary.

Please protect our religious freedom. Most churches are open to public functions and events. Government should not force churches to marry same-sex couples against their religious beliefs nor force into law doctrine that is so against the traditions of our country.

I urge you to stop this bill. Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Darryl D. Willis

Registered voter: Senate District 1 and House District 2.

From: [David Kammerer](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Marriage Equality Act
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 12:47:02 PM

To whom it may concern,

I am vehemently opposed to the proposed legislation contained in SB 1. It is clearly a case of legislative overreach, since all civil rights and legal protections ostensibly sought by same-sex couples are already provided in this state by the 2011 Civil Unions Law. I find it cowardly, cynical, and frankly shameful that consideration of the bill was relegated to a special session scheduled for the minimum five day span.

Although I deplore our elected officials' machinations in caving to activists' demands to redefine marriage, I am most concerned about the sloppy and inadequate language protecting religious freedoms and freedoms of individual conscience. I hope you will collectively practice due diligence in reviewing the religious freedoms protection language of other same-sex marriage states with the intent of improving the language of SB 1.

I am a constituent of Rep. Richard Fale's district and I am confident that he will represent my views on this subject. As I am also a constituent of Sen. Hee's district, please know that I will do everything in my power to convince fellow constituents to vote him out during his next reelection bid if he continues his blanket advocacy of this bill as it now stands.

Aloha--David

David M. Kammerer, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Music
Chair, Department of Music and Theatre Arts
BYU-Hawaii
BYUH Box 1953
55-220 Kulanui Street
Laie, HI 96762
Office phone: 808-675-3913
david.kammerer@byuh.edu

To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Same-Sex Marriage Testimony
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 10:59:21 AM

I am a registered voter on Alexander Street 96822.

I am OPPOSE to this Same-Sex Marriage Bill for the following reasons:

1. The bill is considered UNCONSTITUTIONAL because it uses STATE LAW (Public Accommodations) to override CONSTITUTIONAL LAW (Freedom of Religion/Speech).

2. The bill is UNFAIR because it really LIMITS PROTECTION on FAITH ORGANIZATIONS. With the three stipulations that must be met, two are totally UNFAIR: Faith facilities must be used by members only (church is not exclusive and everyone knows this); Faith facilities must be used for Faith activities (and that is also not true, because churches are open to allow other activities to the public). One cannot expect that this two conditions be met because Faith organizations help the public in whatever way it can throughout the years.

3. The bill is UNFAIR because it DOESN'T address FAITH INDIVIDUALS and even their BUSINESSES. Same-sex couples will be able to sue these people for not wanting to serve them. This is not a HATE ISSUE, but rather a decision to follow one's conscience based on his/her faith. This is RELIGIOUS FREEDOM and FREEDOM OF SPEECH.

4. The Special Session DOES NOT ALLOW for enough time to get all testimonies presented to the legislature; this includes outer island individuals or individuals who do not have access to computer. This is such a social-change issue that the people should be involved.

5. There is a RUSH on this issue and this should be AVOIDED. This is no longer a MARRIAGE issue but a FREEDOM OF RELIGION AND SPEECH issue. There should be more time to look at all FAIRNESS to both sides. This bill currently protects same-sex marriage couples only.

6. In all fairness, THE PEOPLE should have its say and VOTE on this issue. This is the only way to truly get a wide range of public opinion involved. Please remember that you represent THE PEOPLE.

I urge you to make the right decision, and it is about FAIRNESS...providing more time to evaluate such an important topic and consider all aspects, ALL PEOPLE and ways of living.

Our State Motto talks about the Life of the Land being perpetuated in Righteousness. So, lets do the Right thing and consider the FAIRNESS of this bill...because it is OBVIOUSLY NOT FAIR.

Thank you for your genuine consideration on this matter. Please do not take Hawaii down that road of UNFAIRNESS...it will be demeaning to the people and soften our faith in our Legislators.

David D. Ubaldo

1417 Alexander Street #B-1

Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

From: [Dawn OBrien](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Opposition to SB1 Relating to Equality
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 8:33:46 AM

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: Daw <dawnnobrien@yahoo.com>;
To: JDLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov <JDLtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov>;
Subject: File - Traditional Marriage Vote.docx
Sent: Sun, Oct 27, 2013 5:50:27 PM

Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

10/28/13

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process.

I am particularly concerned that the religious exemption clauses are so sparse. Priest, pastors and churches are exempted under only very limited circumstances. There is no exemption for religious organizations, charities or fraternal societies, nor are there any exemptions for individuals. I am concerned that my First Amendment rights be protected in the process.

On a personal note, my 7-year old son shared his view on the same sex marriage bill; he stated: "I wish they don't make it pass, because I don't want to marry the same sex." His sharing really gripped my heart and sadden me to think at such a young age is tormented of legalizing "same sex marriage". How many children or let alone maybe even adults will be as bold to share their heart felt views. This bill would be robbing the innocence of our children, grandchildren and all future generations. With such an amendment, again, our freedom of rights under the First Amendment established by our founding forefathers of this great nation will no longer hold it's validity. Has our state government really studied the what the repercussions of passing this bill would have on our judiciary systems with many law suits to follow and the impact of all people now and future generations, and not just with one group? The state of Massachusetts and Canada, who has passed this bill, has had many avoidable lawsuits, with the rights of innocent citizens living under the rights of the First Amendment, were purged and harassed for trying to defend themselves. Please, please, please, do further research so that our freedoms will not be taken away and our children and future generations will live in righteousness as in our state motto: *Ua Mau ke Ea o Ka Aina i ka Pono* - "The life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness" and that it be sustained throughout time.

Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide.

Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Dean K. Kaya

Dean K. Kaya
95-331 Mahapili Ct #168, Mililani, HI 96789
808-781-5757

Dean Schmucker
183 Ini Iniki
Wailuku HI 96703

SB 1 Testimony

Dear Senators and Representatives,

I recently wrote a letter to the editor of the Maui News, in which I pled the case to bring the issue of same gender marriage to a vote in a constitutional amendment, for the values of the people ought to be reflected in our laws. I have since reconsidered. Indeed, if something is right or wrong, it is right or wrong no matter what public opinion is. That being the case, then, just how might the citizens of this great State of Hawaii make a decision on what is right or wrong?

The 19th century writer Hans Christian Andersen tells the tale of an emperor who was duped into believing that he was wearing a fancy suit. In reality, he was wearing nothing at all. In the end, a little boy pointed out the obvious. At the root of this issue before us is worldview, or paradigm. What are we, as human beings? Are we the result of a random process, a mere coincidence? If so, our laws would reflect whatever values seem right to us at the time. On the other hand, if we are created, and are accountable to our Creator, we would want our laws to be compatible with His desire.

Years ago, Darwin published "Origen of Species". Before this, the worldview in western society was predominately Theistic. That is, there was recognition that there is a God, and that we are accountable to Him. After Darwin, this was called into question. 150 years later, Theism is openly mocked. Religion is placed into a subjective box, and is not allowed to speak in the public square. Someone once said that a lie, repeated often enough, will soon have the power of truth. Fellow citizens of Hawaii, I am here to be that little boy who points out the obvious: The emperor has no clothes!

If we look deep into our hearts, in that secret place that we all fear, we all know that we are NOT the product of random chance. We might well aver otherwise publically, but privately, we know that humans are designed by a Creator to whom we will one day give account. Any honest evaluation of the forensic evidence will agree with this conclusion. As for whom that Creator is, and what His expectation of us is, we have been given the Bible, a book for which there is copious evidence of Devine authorship. Because God has granted us freedom, we are free to choose not to believe, but our failure to believe will not change the facts.

Marriage is not, and never will be, a human creation. God created us Male and Female, for the purpose of producing godly children. No human institution can ever change that fact. We would do well to openly acknowledge this.

Respectfully,

Dean Schmucker
Waikapu

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLWebTestimony](#)
Cc: ddement@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 10:17:47 AM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/24/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Denny Dement	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: How can so few decide the fate of so many? Especially on such a controversial issue. Let the people vote.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Dear Chairman Hee & Senate Committee on Judiciary & Labor,

My greatest, sincere appreciation for your labors of love for our island state!

Without boring you, my secondary point is to ask that you reserve any vote on the Same Sex Marriage Law. I deeply believe this issue is of such a tremendous social impact that it goes far beyond an abbreviated Special Session. It also goes beyond the scope of 77 people deciding for an entire state.

I ask you to please done of two things:

A. Leave the institution of marriage the way we the people defined it in 1998, when we the people were allowed the vote on it.

B. Take the issue back to the citizens of the State and allow us to vote for a clearly-worded constitutional amendment.

Thank you for your time, consideration and aloha!

Dawn O'Brien
Voter & Media Personality
Makiki-McCully-Mo'ili'ili
95.5 FM ~ The Fish Hawai'i

From: di.okada
To: JDLTestimony; JUDSStestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov
Subject: OPPOSITION TO BILL SB1
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 12:54:20 AM

I am writing to voice my opposition to Bill SB1.

I am asking you to allow the people to decide on the issue of marriage as I believe the legislature is going against the will of the people. I support equality for all including the rights of conscience and religious freedom, which I ask you to respect as our elected leaders.

I am opposed to the most contentious social issue in our history being decided virtually in one week and ask that you please uphold the principles of democracy and the democratic process which are being disregarded in this special session.

This bill should be given due process during the regular session where it can properly be vetted and examined as all other bills. The people who elected you to serve as their voices should have a say in public policy that will forever obliterate thousand of years of indigenous and non-native culture, customs and traditions. Your "yes" vote in special session is clearly a NO vote to democracy!

I believe letting the people decide through a constitutional amendment would be fairer.

Thank you for your attention.

Diane Okada
Honolulu, HI 96826

H. THOMAS KAY, JR.

ATTORNEY AT LAW

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Monday, October 28, 2013
10:30 a.m.
State Capitol Auditorium

My name is Tom Kay. I am a kama'aina attorney. I strongly oppose enacting S.B. 1, the Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013 in this Second Special Session of the Hawaii State Legislature. Such action will be unconstitutional under Article 1 §23 of the Hawaii Constitution. §23 provides as follows:

“The legislature shall have power to reserve marriage to opposite sex couples.”

§23 was enacted by the legislature in 1997 as an amendment to the Hawaii Constitution and ratified by 69.2 percent of the voters in 1998. The sole purpose of this constitutional amendment was to reverse the Hawaii Supreme Court decision in the Baehr v. Lewin case in which the court had held that same-sex marriages in Hawaii were constitutional. Following the passage of §23 the Hawaii Supreme Court held, in an unreported decision, that the §23 constitutional marriage amendment validated HRS §572-1 which states that marriage can only be between one man and one woman.

To the 285,671 Hawaii voters out of 412,820 who cast votes in 1998, this meant that by reading constitutional amendment §23 along with the language of HRS §572-1 there could be no legal marriages of same-sex couples in Hawaii.

It also means to the voters today including those of the 285,671 voters still living in Hawaii that any consideration of legalizing marriage of same-sex couples must require an amendment to §23 of the Hawaii Constitution by a vote of the people of Hawaii.

If the Hawaii Legislature in this special session passes the Hawaii Marriage Equality Act two inevitable events will occur:

1. Litigation in both federal and state courts will continue for many years to determine whether the Marriage Act is constitutional before it is ever implemented.
2. There will be an extremely large group of angry Hawaii voters whose right to vote on this major issue was abrogated by current legislators.

The obvious solution to this dilemma is to let the Hawaii voters decide on whether same-sex couples should be allowed to marry under Hawaii law.

From: [Don Hughes](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Gay marriage
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 10:58:28 AM

I am against same sex marriage. It seems that the thought is to get insurance coverage. If that is the case there must be other ways. Marriage is a sacred act and tradition which must be respected.

Aloha Legislators,

I am writing in opposition to the proposed same sex marriage bill. I want to have a right to say what is being taught in public schools. I want to have a right to remove my children from a school that teaches curriculum that is contrary to my beliefs. I want to have a right, as a teacher, to oppose curriculum that is contrary to my beliefs. I want to take my children to church and not have to fear persecution. Please vote NO.

Mahalo,
Dona Ahuna

From: [Don Young](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Re: Testimony in Opposition to SB 1 Relating to Equality
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 8:08:47 PM

Donald Young
909 Kahauloa Place
Honolulu, HI 96825

Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

My name is Don Young --- and I vote!

This question before us has been addressed before. In different forms – but, it’s really the same issue. Sometimes it’s difficult to sort out the details of what happened some years ago, reconcile them with the question that’s now before us, & then – most of all – try to project just how our decisions will affect our future. I, for one, find it disturbing that on an issue which will prove to have far-reaching implications over time, we have had so little opportunity for public input from the voting population.

A few years back, under conditions of extreme noise & pressure (a lot of it from mainland people who came to “help” us out), Hawaii’s Civil Union law was enacted in 2011, effective as of January 1, 2012. The rationale was to provide equal State benefits for same-sex partners as were available to heterosexual couples. Sounds, fair enough – but that wasn’t the end of it. As of May 2013, only 916 people in Hawaii have taken advantage of civil unions – that’s a total of 1832 people - less than 2/10ths of 1% of our total population. Not a very big number - so something else has to be afoot. And it is - less than 2 years later.

We’re now being asked to change the more-than-2000-year old definition of

traditional marriage. The reason? - to qualify same-sex couples for Federal benefits, which are denied those in a civil union. But, the wording on this bill has

a lot of excess baggage that infringes on our religious freedoms. To top it off, it's not necessary to rush to a decision on this bill, because it's purpose is to provide something already available to same-sex couples. Currently, they can obtain the status of "legally" married by taking a quick round-trip flight to California or Washington State to tie the knot. Problem solved, right?

Not really, because that's not the real agenda of this whole exercise: which

is to change our culture, traditions, & even religious beliefs. Hawaii is not the first

to be led down this path – just look at Mass. & Canada. What evolved in those places is in store for us. The path we're being led down includes infringement on

our religious beliefs & practices (the mission of churches will be severely limited

if they're deemed to be public accommodations), massive changes to our educational system (from SSM recognition, to promotion, & to indoctrination); &

curtailing freedom of speech (where Bible verses will be viewed as hate speech).

Those of you who attended last Wednesday evening's meeting were briefed

on just what is in store for Hawaii if we pass this bill. You say it will never happen

in Hawaii – but that's just what they said in Mass. & Canada.

As I stated before, there's no need to pass this bill, never mind rush it through a special session.

Please let the people decide the fate of traditional marriage.

-- Thank you.

From: [Leonard Mukai](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Senate Bill 1
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 10:32:05 AM

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am against legalizing same sex marriage in Hawaii and encourage you to allow the people of Hawaii to decide this important issue. As a father, grandfather, and parent educator, I understand the importance of a father and mother to a child.

Aloha, Dr. Leonard Mukai

From: [Patrick Macy](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Support TRADITIONAL marriage
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 7:09:36 AM

Traditional marriage stabilizes the family and the family is what stabilizes America. Do NOT support same-sex marriage. Our ancestors got us here because they were family oriented. They would roll over in their grave if they could even fathom how far we have digressed from the basic moral values of traditional marriage. Do NOT bring shame upon your ancestors or upon your future posterity.

DR. PATRICK MACY

From: [Dylan Payne](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: testimony in opposition to SB 1 relating to equality
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 10:29:45 AM

Senator Hee,

I am writing to voice my opposition to SB 1: Relating to equality. I strongly believe that marriage should be defined as being between a man and a woman and that compromising this institution will have dire effects on the moral fiber and society of our great State. I do believe that same sex couples should be afforded the same rights and benefits as heterosexual couples, but same sex unions should not be called marriage.

Thank you for considering my testimony. I hope that the legislature listens to the voice of the people.

Aloha,
Dylan Payne
(808) 276-6881
Lahaina, Maui HI

From: [Elisa Nakamura](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Opposition to SB 1 Relating to Equality
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 9:53:41 AM

To: Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

From: Elisa Nakamura, Wahiawa

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

Please vote NOT to pass Senate Bill No. 1 Relating to Equality. I submit to you that:

I. This bill is a violation of process. The people gave the Legislature the right to define marriage as between a man and a woman. If my kids come to me and ask me if they can label our mailbox with "Nakamura" they will be in trouble if they go and paint "Bananapants" on it instead. By giving them authority to label "Nakamura" I have not given them authority to change that label. We, the people of Hawaii, did not give you, the Legislature, the authority to change the definition of marriage. As such, this bill is in direct opposition to the voted on and clear views of the people of Hawaii.

II. The issue of same sex marriage is three different very separate issues. One the one hand it is a word issue. On the other it is a financial issue. The third is a moral issue.

The word issue: The word marriage has long been the label applied to the union between a man and woman or a man and other women. It has never been a label that meant anything else. Homosexual relations have existed since ancient times and across most cultures, but there has always been a different name for that relationship than the one that exists between a man and woman (or women). If the purpose of redefining the word marriage is to give financial rights to those who are in a homosexual committed relationship, then why not give those rights and create a word that means committed homosexual relationship? Your authority under the law is not to rewrite the dictionary is it?

The financial issue: To this issue I would pose a question: Why does what I do with my physical body suddenly give me certain rights that I could not get if I did not perform those actions? If I am a woman living with anyone else and I agree to keep the house and do all the home work while she/she goes and gets a job, why should I have to marry that woman in order to receive the same monetary benefits of a married couple? In essence you are legislating that depending upon what I do behind closed doors, you will allow me to share financial obligations with another person. Making homosexuality or heterosexuality the basis for financial advantage is ridiculous. Why does what I do in the bedroom entitle me to financial advantages? That line of logic does not make sense. Instead let us back up and remember the reason these financial reasons were there in the first place, define them. From there we can decide whether those reasons are still valid and to whom they apply.

The moral issue: The actual effects of this bill, as proven over and over in the United States today, will be to allow the people you are trying to give "rights to", to sue another person for living by the truths dictated by the same Creator that defined my inalienable rights. One only has to look in the news to see that the main impact is to put people out of business who don't agree with what other people are doing behind the bedroom doors. The Creator endowed us with the inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Those inalienable rights do NOT include the right to dictate morals to anyone else. In essence, if you pass this bill, whether you intend to allow others to use it to sue someone out of business or not - you cannot deny that this is exactly what many good citizens have already done in our country. You are dictating the morals. That is not one of your or my inalienable rights.

I would like to thank you for your attention as well as your service, diligence and hard work.

Respectfully,

Elisa Nakamura
Wahiawa, Hawaii

From: [Elise Hishinuma](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: re: same-sex marriage bill
Date: Wednesday, October 23, 2013 5:07:19 PM

October 23, 2013

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in regards to the same-sex marriage bill. I am asking as a voter that you, as my representative will hear my voice and represent me and what I believe.

I am asking that you would vote “No” on the same-sex marriage bill because it violates our democratic rights as citizens of the United States of America. We the people of the United States have been blessed abundantly with freedoms that many countries only dream of having. Among those are the freedoms of speech and of religion. If the same-sex marriage bill is passed, those freedoms that we hold dear will be stripped away without our voices being heard.

I am asking that you vote “No” to the same-sex marriage bill to protect our freedom of speech. With the bill quickly being pushed through the special session, Hawaii’s people are not being given the opportunity to weigh in their opinions. We the people, want to have a voice in such a huge, fundamental shift in our state, in our schools, in our churches, and in our society. The special session is denying us those rights and freedoms that our forefathers fought so hard to grant our country with. Please also take into consideration that Hawaii is the only state rushing into the special session as a result of the Supreme Court decision. If this is truly a dire need, why haven’t the other 34 states that do not permit same-sex marriage done so as well? Is a 5 day session really enough time to discuss, clarify, and put into law one of the most controversial issues that we face today?

My church currently meets in a public school. If this bill is passed, we would be legally obligated to sanction a same-sex marriage if it was requested, even though our faith does not support this. I ask that you would represent not only a portion of the people of Hawaii, but all of us. Please be my voice and also speak out for those of us who’s freedoms—that this country was founded on—are being dismissed.

Thank you for taking time out of your day to hear my voice, but please don't just dismiss what I have brought before you. Please represent me and the people of Hawaii and what we believe.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

Elise Hishinuma

--

Elise M. Hishinuma
3rd Grade Teacher
Windward Nazarene Academy
ehishinuma@windwardnazarene.com
808-235-8787

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From: [Eliza \(Ellie\) Warren](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Against same-sex marriage bill
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 3:37:18 AM

I am against the same-sex marriage bill. I believe that same-sex marriage is not natural, right, nor salubrious on either the individual level or the society level. I believe marriage between a man and a woman is ordained of God, and study after study has shown overwhelmingly that the traditional family (wife, husband, children) is better for the children and for society's structure in general.

October 24, 2013

TO: The State of Hawaii
Honorable Governor Abercrombie
Members of the House of Representatives
Members of the Senate

RE: Special Legislative Session
SB1

As elected officials of the State of Hawaii, I sincerely appeal to you all that you VOTE NO on Senate Bill 1 in regards to allowing Same-Sex Marriage in the State of Hawaii. I am adamantly opposed to the passage of this Bill.

As an educator with the Department of Education for over 20 years, I believe that I have the democratic right to determine what is taught in regards to character education and the curriculum in the classroom. I should be allowed the freedom to choose materials pertain to what I teach which is not to be decided upon by a certain segment of society. I have the right to Academic Freedom and my right to do so will be impinged upon if I am forced to teach sexuality in the classroom and Same Sex Marriage to children. Allowing Same Sex marriage will affect the educational system and will dictate that I teach sexuality in the classroom, attend workshops and trainings which I believe are solely the responsibility of the parents.

Passage of this bill violates my rights as an educator and my rights to Academic Freedom. For the Sake of our children, Vote NO on Senate Bill 1.

Thank you for allowing my to submit my testimony

Elizabeth Kong
School Counselor
Department of Education

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLWebTestimony](#)
Cc: elliekapihe@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (In Person)
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 12:43:29 PM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/26/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Ellie	Windward Missionary Church	Oppose	Yes

Comments: To: Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor Hearing Date/Time: Monday, October 28, 2013, 10:30 a.m. Place: Capitol Auditorium Re: Strong Opposition of SB1 Dear Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor: I am writing to voice my opposition to Bill SB1. I support equality for all including the rights of conscience and religious freedom, which I ask you to respect as our elected leaders. I strongly oppose the legislation and indoctrination of a one group's beliefs and lifestyle over any group of people. I am opposed to the most contentious social issue in our history being decided virtually in one week and ask that you please uphold the principles of democracy and the democratic process which are being disregarded in this special session. This bill should be given due process during the regular session where it can properly be vetted and examined as all other bills. Respectfully, Ellie Kapihe Pastor of Windward Missionary Church

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLWebTestimony](#)
Cc: eblessing02@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 12:35:00 PM
Attachments: [testimony-sb1.pages](#)

SB1

Submitted on: 10/26/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Emi Ayau	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please vote NO. Let the people decide on this important issue. You can already see negative effects of Same-Sex marriage in other states. Let's not have those problems here.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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

From: [Emiko Baker](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 7:16:34 AM

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

It is my understanding that this Same-Sex Marriage Legislation is to provide equality for those that are of same sex gender and it is an honorable action by the Governor to propose this bill to consider their needs since these individuals are due recognition and respect. However, by passing this bill there will be extreme serious, and disturbing and possible irreversible damages that will impact every single person in Hawaii, especially if this bill becomes a law without any type of amendments. I am even questioning whether 5 days will allow for changes to be proposed and agreed upon.

If this bill becomes law, it will discriminate those that run religious organizations because most of the churches will not be exempt under the current language of the bill if they refuse to officiate marriages. They will be in violation of this new law and will be forced to go to court to fight for their Constitutional rights which the Supreme Law of the Land says, and I quote “ Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech...” Religious sectors will deemed “discriminatory” and will be “forced” to comply under this new law, even though this Bill appears to address the protection of these organizations under section 572-G, but in fact, it deceives the public to believe that religious organizations will be protected.

Another group of citizens that this Bill will affect: the educators, the parents of children and children of all ages. There are reports already that indicate actual impacts in the states that have legalized same-sex marriages, and there are also potential negative ramifications involved once at a state passes a law to legalize same-sex marriages.

There has been reports in different parts of the nation and in our neighboring country that speeches by teachers, students, and counselors have been increasingly being censored and there has been drastic altering of the children’s curriculum which includes very graphic materials that the teachers will be forced to teach and finally, schools will be REQUIRED (forced) to be assisted by GLSEN organization to form Gay/Straight Alliances /clubs on campus. Reports indicate that parents will not have a say in what will be taught to their children, and given, in fact no notice will not be given to parents or to opt out. LGBT ([lesbian](#), [gay](#), [bisexual](#), and [transgender](#)) teachings (indoctrination) will also be introduced. Private and religious schools will eventually have no say and will also be forced to comply.

Well-qualified school counselors, administrators, and teachers refusing to comply will be fired or disciplined/suspended. These new curriculum will promote acceptance and normalization of these behaviors and will be under the disguise of anti-bullying or “discriminatory harassment.” Parents will not have a say and may even be imprisoned for expressing their views and requesting for opting out their children when these lessons are taught.

I work in the schools where this will possibly take place once this bill becomes law and it will definitely impact all the teachers I work with, the children I see everyday and each of those parents that pick up their children from school. I, myself, will have to rethink about my employment in the education system.

Please seriously consider these potential ramifications for every person in this state that you personally made a choice to affect should you support this Bill.

I would like you to consider killing this bill since there are current measures that are being considered for the regular sessions. At that time, a more fair consideration for the rest of the residents of Hawaii can be considered and that all voices can be heard to develop a more thoughtful and constitutional-based bill can be introduced.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this most important piece of legislation.

Emiko Baker

From: [Emily Maeda](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Strong Opposition of SB 1
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 11:50:35 PM

Clayton Hee, Chair

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am writing to voice my opposition to Bill SB 1.

I am asking that you would let the people of Hawaii decide on this issue of marriage. I believe that this special session does not give the people of Hawaii the opportunity to let their voice be heard on this issue.

I am a young adult and am writing this because I am concerned about my future keiki and what they will be learning in their public school curriculum if this same sex marriage bill is passed. I am getting married in December and am looking forward to having children and raising them the way I believe is correct. However, if this bill is passed, the public school system will enforce curriculum that I do not agree with.

There are documented incidences where parents are harassed because they have a difficult time with the curriculum that their children are being subjected to. Hawaii's public school system will change, Governor Abercrombie has assured us of this.

My fiancé is a teacher and I am a case manager. We will not have the financial freedoms to pay for a private school education for our future children so that they can be exempt from the promotion of homosexual relationships. I also will not have the ability to home school my children, as I need to provide financially as well.

As you can see, this is an extremely important issue that will have dramatic effects. More time is needed for further discussion of this bill. The determination of this bill is being rushed into a one-week decision, while the institution of traditional marriage has been around for thousands of years. Please give us, the people of Hawaii, the chance and time to have a say in this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Emily Maeda

(Honolulu, HI 96822)

From: [Emmons Connell](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 6:41:17 PM

Dear Legislators,

God is love. God wants ALL people to come to Him in faith and believe that His Son Jesus Christ is the Savior of all the world. Once God's Holy Spirit works in your heart to repent and believe this, you become one of his children. Out of thankfulness you do what God, who is a just God, wants you to do, as in, follow His rules joyfully. God's rules become your rules.

The bill as read condones homosexual acts in direct opposition to God's rules!

How can I go against my God?

Please vote NO on Same Sex Marriage.

Thanks for your time and attention.

Emmons and Mary Connell
208 Hoohale Place
Kihei HI 96753
875-1267

From: [Eric Keawe](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Opposition on Same Sex Marriage
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 10:54:49 AM

I would like to express my opinion regarding this up coming special session regarding the issue of same sex marriage. I would like to ask you to oppose the legalization of same sex marriage in the state of Hawaii for the following reasons:

- 1) It's not natural
- 2) The destruction of the family.
 - a. Same sex marriage does not produce children
 - b. Same sex marriage purposes is not an equality issue, it is a moral and physical issue.
 - c. Same sex marriage is selfish for its own intent and purpose not thinking about the future of the world.
- 3) Creates the loss of freedom to choose for the people.
 - a. Religion
 - b. Education
 - c. Welfare

I have listed what I believe to be core purposes of my belief and many others through out our state. I plead for your attention and ask for your support to reject this proposal to legalize same sex marriage in our state of Hawaii. For the sake of my children, grandchildren and posterity to follow.

Regards,

Eric K. Keawe

2283 Tantalus Drive

Honolulu, HI 96813

Papakolea Community Member

S District 13

R District 24

From: [Eric Marlowe](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Opposition to Bill SB1
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 9:40:32 AM

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Hearing Date/Time: Monday, October 28, 2013, 10:30 a.m.

Place: Capitol Auditorium

Re: Strong Opposition of SB1

Dear Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am writing to voice my opposition to Bill SB1.

I am asking you to allow the people to decide on the issue of marriage as I believe the legislature is going against the will of the people. I support equality for all including the rights of conscience and religious freedom, which I ask you to respect as our elected leaders.

I am opposed to this being decided virtually in one week and ask that you please uphold the principles of democracy and the democratic process which are being disregarded in this special session.

This bill should be given due process during the regular session where it can properly be vetted and examined as all other bills.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Eric-Jon Keawe Marlowe

Laie, HI 96762

From: [Erin Hoff](#)
To: JUDSStestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov; [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Fwd: Bill SB1
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 10:29:27 AM

Aloha,

I would testify in person, but I am unable to make it to Honolulu during the special session because of its limited and exclusive nature.

I am extremely concerned about the bill up for review attempting to redefine marriage in Hawai'i. In an effort to bring marital rights to parties, this piece bill is completely inadequate to maintain religious freedom here in Hawai'i. You cannot successful support equality by promoting the rights of one group (gays) and cutting off the rights of another (religious institutions).

Please, vote NO on this piece of legislation! Please, at the least, re-word the bill to protect religious freedom. It is not fair to require all religious leaders and buildings to be available to perform same-sex marriages with impending fines accompanying dis-action. That will force hundreds of residents to act against their personal beliefs, affecting their spirituality and their relationships with God and the community.

We should ALL be able to participate in and uphold marriage in the ways that we see fit. Religious institutions should be able to perform marriages by their own leaders in their own buildings for their followers in the manner that they see proper and correct. No one else, regardless of religious affiliation or sexual orientation or political stance, should be allowed to infringe upon the constitutional right of religious freedom, which was one of the major proponents of the establishment of the American country. EVERYONE deserves to live peaceful lives where they are protected and respected.

Please, consider the lives and rights off ALL of your state's residents before approving a bill which, in its current wording, will severely affect and damage the lives of many people in Hawai'i.

The definition of marriage is essential to the beliefs of many religions and people of faith. If marriage is legally redefined to include same-sex couples, enormous legal and social pressure will mount against churches and religious people who believe in the traditional definition of marriage. I am one of these people. I have had a variety of gay friends throughout my life. Although I don't agree with their lifestyle, I still respect them and love them. And they have shown me the same courtesy. We are able to form relationships beyond our societal opinions. We both are entitled to our opinions and have the right to belief and live in ways that we see fit. I expect that same courtesy from my government! Bill SB1 is not by or for the people!

Schools will teach children the new definition of marriage and correct or ostracize children who openly disagree based on their family's religious beliefs.

Lawsuits will be brought against individuals, small businesses, marriage counselors, and even some churches and their related organizations (including educational and charitable institutions) that refuse to support same-sex marriages on religious conscience grounds. Religious groups that provide family-related services, such as adoption, will be stripped of their State licenses for being unwilling to treat same-sex marriages as equal to traditional marriages.

Society will increasingly view and treat those who support traditional marriage for religious reasons as bigoted or ignorant.

Please, protect me as you strive to protect my homosexual brothers and sisters. We ALL deserve it!

-Erin Hoff

From: [Estrelita Castro](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#); JUDSStestimony@capitol.hawaii.com
Cc: ever2140@yahoo.com
Subject: My Testimony
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 5:34:46 PM

Testimony of Estrelita T. CASTRO

I am a registered voter of the State of Hawaii, a mother, a grandmother, a Christian, a law abiding citizen of this state and the United States of America. I am here because:

Number 1) I am deeply concerned about the ramification of this gay-rights bill or any similar legislation that forces ordinary citizens to become criminals if they refuse to obey orders that go against their moral principles. Records show states and countries where gay-rights bill are implemented, many of their ordinary citizens have been fined and criminalized when they have tried to stay within their personal beliefs and refuse to obey laws that go contrary to their conscience.

Number 2) I am concerned about the legacy our generation leaves behind for the keikis of these islands, this beautiful state of ours, as well as the whole United States of America. It is not about us, it is about the generation we leave behind. Keikis have the right to be protected and shielded. We do not have to have sex taught them at an early age as early as kindergarten. We were not robbed of our childhood innocence. The generation before us assured us of that. Who are we to do rob our grandchildren of the same safety precautions our parents and grandparents gave us?

As members of the legislature you were voted in to represent the ordinary people of these islands. I also think you are to protect the rights of our mo'opunas as well.

Most of you remember your childhood because our schools were so different then. We respected our parents, the flag, our country. Those are legacies that are being eroded by this

cancerous idea that gays have rights that take precedence over the rights of our children. OUR CHILDREN comes first before their rights. OUR CHILDREN are not 3rd class citizens that they are to be put in harms way.

I am deeply concerned that my grandchildren will have to leave in fear of pedophiles who have as I speak are trying to push legislation to protect their sexual preferences. It is unconscionable that you would not protect our children and protect pedophiles.

Please ladies and gentlemen, I beg of you protect our children. Do what is PONO!

From: [Faith Wright](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB1 RELATING TO EQUALITY
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 9:15:41 PM
Attachments: [page1image46184.png](#)
[page1image46268.png](#)
[page1image46604.png](#)
[page1image46688.png](#)
[page1image46772.png](#)
[page1image46856.png](#)

Clayton Hee, chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY
Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

My Name is Faith Wright. I live at 54-225 Hauula Homestead Rd, Hauula, HI 96717.

I am in Opposition to SB1 relating to equality. This bill has everything to do with my freedom of religion. I oppose YOU deciding that marriage between a man and a woman is some afterthought and should be changed because a few say so. The people have spoken again and again relating to this issue. The government (YOU) as elected officials were not put in to do as you please!! The fact that this is trying to be bullied through judicial process shows that in fact what I speak is the truth!! Please know that I will not vote for anyone who votes for this bill.

Faith Wright

Voter!!!!

Sent from my iPad

From: [Farina McCarthy-Stonex](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: To the Committee on Judiciary and Labor (Related to Equal Rights)
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 9:52:30 AM

Dear Sir,

I wish to testify that marriage is ordained of God and that marriage is between a man and a woman. This country was founded on religious principles that believed in the sanctity of marriage.

I am taking this opportunity to have my voice heard too. The current language in the new Senate draft bill does not grant adequate protections against lawsuits and other litigation for religious entities and their followers. This bill does not protect organizations related to or controlled by religious organizations, nor does it protect such organizations with respect to the celebrations or promotions of marriage against their religious beliefs. Furthermore, Religious groups must continue to have the freedom to choose how their facilities and buildings may be used, and that they should not come under or enforced to be under "public" facility. Churches offer shelter to the poor and needy and sustain our citizens in their time of need through sermon, support and love. For the Governor to introduce legislature without allowing the people to vote and voice their opinion is unfair. e. g. (According to Governor Abercrombie's FAQ on his website, this bill was "based on a bill that was introduced in the Legislature this past session (S.B. No. 1369), which has been updated." SB 1360 did not receive a single hearing during standard session.

Also the Governor has set this special session at a minimum amount of days allowed by law. As a result, there will be only one hearing for the House and Senate each for people to testify. It severely limits the general public the opportunity to voice their concerns. After the passing of the 1996 Defense Against Marriage Act, Hawaii adopted a Constitutional Amendment in 1998 that gave the legislature power to reserve marriage as between a man and a woman. For an issue that would impact so many people, organizations and culture it is important to let the people decide.

Sincerely,
Farina McCarthy-Stonex

From: [Mom](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Special Session - Gay Marriage Bill
Date: Wednesday, October 23, 2013 11:01:26 PM

I was born and raised in Hawaii and am 66 years old. I want you to know that I and my family are AGAINST you approving this bill. The people of Hawaii has already spoken and voted back in 1998 that MARRIAGE SHOULD BE BETWEEN ONE AND ONE WOMAN!

I believe that what the Governor has done and what some of those in the legislature intend to do does not take the majority of Hawaii's citizens and our voices into consideration, but you are only considering YOUR OWN PERSONAL preferences/choices. May God, Who created the heavens and the earth, HELP US! The PEOPLE OF HAWAII VOTED each one of you into office to REPRESENT US, THE PEOPLE OF HAWAII! TRUTHFULLY, are you representing the majority of Hawaii's people when you are voting for this bill?

I have read the repercussions that's now affecting the State of Massachusetts. I am asking you to NOT pass this bill until you have made your studies as to how the passing of this bill will affect our citizens, churches, businesses and most of all, our children. Please... DO NOT VOTE with a BLIND MIND!

Mahalo for your consideration,

Felisa Miner
94-302 Paiwa St., P611
Waipahu, HI 96797

Oct 23, 2013

For the Senate hearing: Hearing on 10/28 @ 10:30am

Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am opposing Same Sex Marriage because Same Sex Marriage violates Chinese Tradition.

American Chinese are very serious about family. We tell the youth that taking care the elderlies in the family is their duty. We finance businesses through family. We borrow money to buy properties through family. We obtain the best education through family.

We know from our hearts that we need love from father and mother, so we apply the same to others. Our children need love from their father and mother as we do.

Same Sex Marriage bill is going to destroy Chinese tradition. We want our local boys and girls know that rearing family biologically is the best. We want to give the best to our future.

Therefore, please vote NO on any piece of the Same Sex Marriage bill!

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLWebTestimony](#)
Cc: fia_emerson@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 11:16:58 PM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/24/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Fia Emerson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I do not support this bill. It seeks to impose alternative lifestyles in public places which lifestyles I do not want my children to be exposed or taught in schools. Trust when I say this I this bill goes through and alternative lifestyles are being taught in curriculum that I will remove my kids from the public education system. I know many who hold the same values as me would not hesitate to do the same. Senator Hee, I am telling you as a citizen in the district that you represent that I do not want you to vote for this bill. Let the people vote on it.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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

From: [Frances Nojiri](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Testimony in Opposition to SB 1 Relating to Equality
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 4:06:32 PM
Attachments: [image006.png](#)

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

First of all, I would like to thank you for this opportunity to voice my opposition to SB1 relating to equality.

Reasons for my opposition:

1. It violates what I believe that God's law is the highest law in the land and it clearly states that marriage is between a man and a woman.
2. Although we don't have children, I am concern of the welfare and moral values of children of this generation and of the generations to come. Passing of this bill would cause instability and deterioration of families due to mixed-liberal teachings taught and instilled in young minds not knowing any better which would cause confusion and chaos in families and trigger an automatic negative effect in Hawaii.
3. This bill does not protect small business owners rights/freedom of choice due to conscious sake to be able to refuse to provide same-sex marriage services without the fear of losing their businesses.
4. This bill does not protect State/Government workers rights/freedom of choice due to conscious sake to be able to refuse to provide same-sex marriage services without the fear of losing their jobs.
5. This bill does not protect teachers rights/freedom of choice due to conscious sake to refuse to teach students related topics of same-sex marriage without the fear of losing their jobs.

Since this is a highly sensitive and controversial bill, I plead with you: **LET THE VOTERS/PEOPLE of HAWAII VOTE ON IT, NOT THE LEGISLATORS.** Our unified goal should be what would be best for the people of Hawaii, and not copycat or to be like other states. So please sow what would be best for the people so that our today and tomorrows will be a harvest of 'PONO'. Thank you!

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Nojiri
Registered Voter/Concerned Citizen



Hawaii

Hawaii State Motto

Ua Mau Ke Ea O Ka Aina I Ka Pono

Translation: The Life of the Land is Perpetuated in Righteousness

From: [Gary Langley](mailto:Gary.Langley)
To: JDLTestimony; JUDSStestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov
Cc: [Rep. K. Mark Takai](#); [Rep. Cindy Evans](#); [Rep. Jo Jordan](#); [Rep. John Mizuno](#); [Rep. Calvin Say](#); [Rep. Justin Woodson](#); [Rep. Joseph Souki](#); [Rep. Angus McKelvey](#); [Rep. Derek Kawakami](#); [Rep. Linda Ichiyama](#); [Rep. Mark Hashem](#); [Rep. Mele Carroll](#); [Rep. Sylvia Luke](#); [Rep. Takashi Ohno](#); [Rep. Tom Brower](#); [Sen. Mike Gabbard](#); [Rep. Ken Ito](#)
Subject: *****SPAM***** TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 11:36:00 AM

Aloha:

As a 30+ year resident of Hawaii and community influencer, I am deeply concerned about the unintended outcomes that have historically followed such legislation in other states. I am sure that those who have proposed this legislation have done so with the best of intentions, but in an attempt to provide a remedy for a miniscule percentage of people in Hawaii they are potentially imposing massive burdens upon the overwhelming majority of us.

I am writing to express my strong opposition to SB 1 for the following reasons:

- (1) Any legal and/or financial inequities remaining since the passing of the Civil Unions bill can easily be addressed by amendments to that law WITHOUT redefining marriage.
- (2) This is a divisive issue that should be decided by a plebiscite, not by political maneuvering.
- (3) In attempting to provide some measure of protection for religious groups who have moral and theological objections to same-gender marriage the State of Hawaii is overstepping its Constitutional authority — the alleged protections for churches state that. **"unless a religious organization allows use of its facilities or grounds by the general public for weddings for a profit, such organization shall not be required to make its facilities or grounds available for solemnization of any marriage celebration."** That wording puts the State in the untenable position of defining who/what constitutes a church, and is based upon endorsement of a single understanding of church that does not reflect the latest scholarship and 21st Century church models.

I am both a Pastor and Presiding Bishop for my church denomination in Hawaii and the Republic of Kiribati. I earned a Masters degree in Global Leadership from Fuller Theological Seminary, and my definition of church includes both the "**church assembled**" (the weekly gatherings of believers we typically call 'going to church', in which citizens sing and pray together, encourage one another and learn about their faith), which leads to the '**church dispersed**' — the individual members of the church living out their faith in their political decisions, business ethics and personal relationships in their everyday lives. The **CHURCH DISPERSED** is individual, personal and every bit as much 'the church' as the church assembled, yet the proposed law provides NO protection for the church dispersed, and little protection for the church assembled.

A local florist, baker, photographer or other service provider who is a devout believer is, in fact, the **CHURCH DISPERSED** and is provided NO legal protection from being forced to violate their deeply held moral and theological stand against same-gender marriage, and they will be forced into situations that will clearly be a violation of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, which prohibits the federal government from making a law "respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof". The Hawaii State Constitution mirrors that: **No law shall be enacted respecting an establishment of**

religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof... Any State law "prohibiting the free exercise" of a person's faith as part of the church dispersed is inherently unconstitutional.

The state clearly has no understanding of contemporary missional church models and bases their understanding only upon models like the Roman Catholic, a highly hierarchal, institutional church.

Respectfully,

Gary R. Langley
Presiding Bishop
Church of God of Prophecy
Hawai'i and the Republic of Kiribati

45-416 Kamehameha Highway
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Georgialynn M Dainard
73-1299 Hiolani Street
Kailua Kona, HI 96740

October 25, 2013

Honorable Senators and Representatives
27th Legislature 2013
Hawaii State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Ref: Testimony Opposed to SB1 – Marriage Equity

Dear Sirs and Madame's:

Thank you for taking time to review my testimony.

There are two issues that most concern me with the Marriage Equity SB1:

1. The current language in SB1 is ambiguous and unclear insofar as guaranteed protection for the church to express their religious freedom in their right to refuse to solemnize marriage of the same sex. Specifically, the language contained in 572-G (C) appears to contradict what is stated in 572-F through 572-G (b).

The purpose of legalizing same sex marriage is to afford this people group access to the benefits, rights and dignity afforded to marriages of the opposite sex. What then becomes of the generations of believers who gather to express their own religious freedom? For example, I believe marriage is between one man and one woman and I belong to a religious sect who fosters the same belief.

Why then would our faith and pastor be penalized for refusing to solemnize a same sex marriage? Where is the expression of freedom for what the church believes?

It would appear the 5.1% GBLT population in the State of Hawaii by the standard above would enjoy greater civil rights than the church. Protection of the church and its right to celebrate religious freedom without fear of penalty, legal challenges or persecution is paramount.

2. The second pressing issue is the future effect of Marriage Equity in Hawaii nine years down the road or fast forward to 2022. Certainly not many living in Massachusetts in 2004 could envision the effect of legalizing same sex marriage would have on public schools, health and hospitals, the court system, law enforcement, public access etc.

The broad brush of the civil rights act empowered by the legalization of same sex marriage impacted the way of life in Massachusetts for children, adults, businesses and beyond. Attached is a commentary by Brian Camenker as to the Massachusetts experience since same sex marriage was legalized in 2004.

I pray you will take time to read his commentary and then ask yourself if this is the future you envisioned for your keiki, grand keiki or great grand keiki. Is this the hostility you want for our Hawaii? At what age is innocence lost? Is it the age when the DOE force feeds our keiki homosexuality is normal? Or is it the age when our keiki are forced to learn in school about oral and anal sex or sex toys used to gratify their partner?

I am certain there are good and decent GBLT citizens who will respect and aloha the rights of others. But, there exists the fringe element in any society who will use the legalization of same sex marriage to work the civil rights angle for their own selfish motives.

My plea is simple, 1) let the people vote; 2) search your heart is this really the legacy the 2013 Legislature wants to leave for the future keiki o ka aina; and 3) where will the money come from to implement the many challenges our State will face when same sex marriage is legalized?

Aloha and God Speed in your deliberations,

Georgialynn Dainard
Ordinary Citizen of the Aina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLWebTestimony](#)
Cc: gphima@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 9:34:56 AM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/25/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Glenn Shimabukuro	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Written Testimony in Opposition to SB 1 Relating to Equal Rights Good morning, Chairman Senator Hee and senate committee members of the Judiciary and Labor committee, My name is Glenn Shimabukuro, a 66 year old registered voter, residing at 98-500-4 Kaonohi St., Aiea, HI 96701. I want to thank you for allowing me to submit my written testimony opposing this legislation. I believe this legislation should not be considered for approval until further deliberation and analysis be done. The public has not been given the opportunity to hear, digest, review and understand the full implication of this proposal. I am concerned that this proposal is being "rushed" without much public analysis. I believe there are dire consequences for businesses, education, and health care related matters that have not been properly addressed or made known to the public. May I urge you to vote NO to the passage of this legislation. Thank you. Respectfully submitted by, Glenn Shimabukuro 98-500-4 Kaonohi St. Aiea, HI 96701

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLWebTestimony](#)
Cc: hcarmody@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 7:33:20 AM
Attachments: [Testimony_SSM.pages](#)

SB1

Submitted on: 10/27/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Harriet Carmody	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please allow ALL voters the consideration to individually vote on this issue, which will highly impact them.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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

From: [Heidi Lacsina](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Opposed to Same Sex Marriage Bill
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 8:31:07 PM

Heidi Ka'aihue-Lacsina

Date: October 28th, 2013

Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

Thank you for the opportunity to hear my voice. I stand today opposed to this bill and its so-called marriage equality, to give the rights to those of same sex gender to marry is one thing but to take the rights of others is another thing, your SB 1 gives no protection to faith based business, churches or facilities, that if this bill passes, "as is," then churches, local faith based business and facilities will be targeted by those who oppose our belief. We are asked to accept their sexual preferences but when we stand up for our faith and morals we are cussed at, name called, and worse sued for discrimination and our First Amendment Rights are thrown out as if they never existed, I thought that this was America a country built upon Faith.

All I ask is that you consider revisiting the exemptions listed for the protection of faith based facilities and grounds as well as small businesses, to call this bill equal or equality, then it better balance out for ALL the people who call Hawaii home, not just a few, for less then 916 civil unions couples, as of 2 years ago when Governor Abercrombie signed it into law, are living in Hawaii out of 1.4 million people, so less then 1/5 of 1% of the people who live in Hawaii will benefit from this bill, while those of us who are of faith must defend our business, churches and facilities from being put out of service, a service that benefits the communities in which they operate. I find it rather disgusting to think that our Hawaii has come to this, that our culture has shifted so badly that we who call Hawaii home will feel imprisoned once again, to accept someone else's sexual preference when they are not willing to accept my freedom to live my life with the faith I have in Jesus Christ, this just no can.

In closing, I ask that you would take a look at what's happening in the other states that have passed this type of bill, for ours is the worse one written in regards to religious exemptions for pastors and clergy, for churches and their grounds, for facilities and small businesses, not to mention the effect it will have on our keiki of Hawaii if this bill passes and there is no protection as to what is taught in the public schools. I hope that you, as our Representatives and Senators, would slow it down long enough to really listen to the people and make the right choices that would benefit ALL of the people of Hawaii, not just a few, and if that's not possible then put it on the ballot and let the people vote!

Heidi Ka'aihue-Lacsina

From: [Herbert R Franco Jr](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 10:16:53 PM

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

First of all I would like to thank you for the selfless service you give to our community that we don't see and that goes on behind the scenes as representing your constituents as best as can. I would not wish to be in your shoes as you have a heavy burden to weigh and appreciate all that you do! Although we don't agree at times I respect the office and know that this was the will of the people as the majority voted in favor of electing you and as an elected official you know that it should always be the will of the people.

At this time I wish to express my complete dissatisfaction on the upcoming Special Session that the Governor has called for on same Sex marriage. The bottom line is this: why does Governor Neil Abercrombie feel that something as critical as this would be decided without giving the people a chance to vote? Why should our right to vote be taken away? Why does the Governor think that this is something that the people should have no choice with or given no choice to express our voices? His answers to these questions were posted online and I had a chance to review his answers. I do not believe that there is complete truth to everything that he said in those answers and frankly I do not even know if he even answered the questions that were being asked. All I am asking is a chance to use my vote as it is my right as a citizen of this state and of this country. Many have given their very lives to preserve these rights for all of us and now Neil Abercrombie believes he can change all of that in five days? It is wrong. .it is deceitful..it is manipulative. .and it is unconstitutional. I ask that you take my testimony into consideration and the testimony of thousands of others who share the same thoughts. I am extremely concerned if this bill passes, of the detrimental ramifications this will cause. And the ripple effect will be greater than you or I can imagine. .even long after you and I are gone. This will hinder generations to come and the Hawaii that you and I were raised in and have grown to love will be gone forever and your posterity will have nobody but us to thank. Please take these testimonies into consideration as you make your decision in this very critical matter. May God guide you to do what is right.

Respectfully,

Herbert R. Franco Jr.
92-984 Panana Street #11
Kapolei, Hawaii 96707
908-723-0580

For the Senate hearing: Hearing on 10/28 @ 10:30am

Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am opposing Same Sex Marriage because of our heartfelt concern and compassion for the future of our state. I concern over the physical, mental and emotional problems that will beset those who choose the homosexual lifestyle, and I object to what this will do to our community, my children and to my traditional family life. Evidence clearly show that children must be raised in a traditional family environment to thrive and to grow.

In addition, legalizing Same Sex Marriage will have a negative effect on the liberties of religious freedom, as it relates to what the Bible holds as God's Truth and Christians' freedom to teach from it. Government should never define moral value and limit the teachings of faith group. Legalizing Same Sex Marriage will put a threat to religious freedom.

Therefore, please vote NO on any piece of the Same Sex Marriage bill!

From: [Ivy Stiefvater](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Opposing Senate Bill 1
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 7:51:41 PM

To Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

My name is Ivy Stiefvater and I oppose the Senate Bill 1. I am against this Bill because it is against my beliefs. I am opposed to the concept of same sex marriage. I believe that marriage should only be between a man and a woman. We are heading toward Sodom and Gomorrah and I do not want my son to grow up in such an environment.

Thank you,
Ivy Stiefvater
56-363 Kekauoha St
Kahuku, HI 96731

From: [J. Mickey Damerell, DDS, MS](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Against Same Sex Marriage Law
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 8:36:11 AM

J. Mickey Damerell DDS, MS
Orthodontics
Against

From: [J. Mickey Damerell, DDS, MS](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Against Same Sex Marriage Law
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 8:36:11 AM

J. Mickey Damerell DDS, MS
Orthodontics
Against

From: [Jacob Chung Jr.](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Oppose Same-Sex Marriage
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 1:39:53 AM

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hearing Date/Time: Monday, October 28, 2013, 10:30 a.m.
Place: Capitol Auditorium
Re: Strong Opposition of SB1

Dear Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

Aloha, my name is Jacob Chung. I'm native Hawaiian and I oppose same-sex marriage.

I find it troubling that the voices of the people of Hawaii are not being heard, instead outsiders from the mainland are greatly influencing our governing officials.

This is not about our local families or people of our state who choose this lifestyle. This is about an outside organization that is literally bullying it's way into our islands through the influencing of our government, forcing us to accept same-sex marriage as normal. And because of this law, schools will be teaching that this is a normal lifestyle going against everything I believe, and causing so much confusion.

In 1998 the people voted yes to traditional marriage. The way it was worded gave us only two options: either we were for SSM, or if we were against it we would allow the legislature to redefine it at a later date. Since it was written on the ballot this way, the people decided on the lesser of two evils.

All of you were elected by the people to be our voice. Something of this magnitude shouldn't be decided by 52 people. Put it to a vote and let the people decide.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Jacob Chung
98-1453 F Kaahumanu Street
Aiea, Hawaii, 96701

From: [Jackie Franco](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#); francoj001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 9:45:21 PM

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I wish to express my complete dissatisfaction on the upcoming Special Session that the Governor has called for on same sex marriage. The bottom line is this: why does Neil Abercrombie feel that something as critical as this would be decided without giving the people a chance to vote? Why should our right to vote be taken away? Why does the Governor think that this is something that the people should have no choice with or given no choice to express our voices? His answers to these questions were posted online and I had a chance to review his answers. I do not believe that there is complete truth to everything that he said in those answers and frankly I do not even know if he even answered the questions that were being asked. All I am asking is a chance to use my vote as it is my right as a citizen of this state and of this country. Many have given their very lives to preserve these rights for all of us and now Neil Abercrombie believes he can change all of that in five days?

It is wrong. It is deceitful. It is manipulative. And it is unconstitutional. I ask that you take my testimony into consideration and the testimony of thousands of others who share the same thoughts. I am extremely concerned if this bill passes, of the detrimental ramifications this will cause. And the ripple effect will be greater than you or I can imagine. Even long after you and I are gone. This will hinder generations to come and the Hawaii that you and I were raised in and have grown to love will be gone forever and your posterity will have nobody but you to thank. Please take these testimonies into consideration as you make your decision in this very critical matter. May God guide you to do what is right.

Respectfully,

Jacquelyn Franco
92-984 Panana Street #11
Kapolei, Hawaii 96707
908-723-0579

From: [James & Lorrie Roller](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: SB1: Opposition to Same Sex Marriage
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 9:13:22 AM

Our names are James and Lorrie Roller, and we want to reach out to you to express our serious concerns about the upcoming bill for same-sex marriage. We implore you to read the research from the state of Massachusetts detailing the harm same sex marriage has created since legalized. There have been negative impacts in the public schools, public health, hospitals, domestic violence, business and employment, adoption, First Amendment violations such as freedom of religion and speech and of course within the families themselves. We are charged with protecting our children and preserving their futures. Destroying the nucleus of the family unit and redefining an institution that is necessary to the rearing of healthy and productive children is what same sex marriage would bring to Hawaii, and you will have that legacy on your watch. We urgently, and strongly ask you to reconsider your position on this issue and vote NO. Additionally we request that a "roll call" vote be taken. Thank you for your continued public service.

From: [James Arcate](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 11:55:25 AM

Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

A lot of men and women get married to each other in civil marriage ceremonies. This is a lot like Civil Unions in Hawaii, where no religious institution is required to perform or recognize them.

So simply amend Hawaii's Civil Unions Law to confer the benefits of marriage without using the word "marriage".

This approach would eliminate the need for all to agree that marriage is between a man and a woman.

James R. Arcate
3447 Pipa Place
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 988 9713

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

My name is Jamilah Hernandez, I reside at 1331 Ala Kapuna Street. I am in opposition to the SB 1 Bill (Same sex marriage). I have been living in Hawaii for more than eight years now. I am a veteran and now call Hawaii home for my children and I. I am not a local, but my children have grown up here and my youngest son Kaeo was born here. They love Hawaii and love growing up here. I am a registered voter here in Hawaii, and I would like to personally thank Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson, whom I voted for, for all his hard work and dedication for representing the people in District 31. I am so happy that some of our representatives are listening to the people and trying to kill this Bill. I can 't believe some of our representatives are not listening to the voice of the people. If this Bill is passed it will greatly affect many of the hard working families here in Hawaii. This Bill will violate the 1st Ammendment Rights of the people of District 31. I have spoken to many of my friends and other mothers in this community and they all feel the same way. We all feel this Bill will have a negative affect on this community. I hope that other representatives realize how many people really don't want this bill passed. Many families don't really have the time to write letters and make calls to the different Representatives because they are working long hours and just don't have the time. So I am writing on the behalf of all these other families that I have spoken to personally and hoping that all of the Representatives will try and get out and speak to the people. Thank you for all you do for the community and I hope as you decide on this Bill you will keep all the keiki in mind and what the future will be for them.

Jamilah Hernandez

From: [Jane Noe](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: *****SPAM***** Against Same Sex marriage
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 10:50:00 AM

I am for the building up and support of the traditional family structure which has been in decline these past 20 years due to divorce, separation, etc. Our society will eventually pay for it.
The people of Hawaii voted against same sex marriage a few years ago. Why has the Governor gone against the wishes of the people who voted for him?
Thank you. Jane Noe

From: [Janell Yim](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: OPPOSITION TO SB1 The Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 12:11:28 PM

JANELL YIM
3270 PAWAINA STREET
HONOLULU, HI 96822

October 26, 2013

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
The Honorable Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Hearing Date: Monday, October 28, 2013 at 10:30 am

I will not be present at the hearing, therefore; I am submitting my written testimony

*Re: In **Opposition** to S.B. 1: The Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013*

Dear Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

I am opposed to S.B.1, The Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013.

Tolerance, Same-Sex Marriage and Religious Freedom.

Dallin H. Oaks, a former Utah Supreme Court Judge, in 2013 awarded the prestigious Canterbury Medal for his lifetime of service in promoting the cause of religious freedom and presently a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints stated.

"Those who favor homosexual marriage contend that "tolerance" demands that they be given the same right to marry as heterosexual couples

Tolerance obviously requires a non-contentious manner of relating toward one another's differences. But tolerance does not require abandoning one's standards or one's opinions on political or public policy choices. Tolerance is a way of reacting to diversity, not a command to insulate it from examination.

The Church does not condone abusive treatment of others and encourages its members to treat all people with respect. However, speaking out against practices with which the Church disagrees on moral grounds – including same-sex marriage – does not constitute abuse or the frequently misused term "hate speech.".. But today's politically palatable definition insists that unless one accepts the "sin" he does not tolerate the "sinner". We can express genuine love and friendship for the homosexual family member or friend without accepting the practice of homosexuality or any re-definition of marriage.

Legalizing same-sex marriage will affect a wide spectrum of government activities and policies. Once a state government declares that same-sex unions are a civil right, those governments almost certainly will enforce a wide variety of other policies intended to ensure that there is no discrimination against same-sex couples. This may well place "church and state on a collision course."

The prospect of same-sex marriage has already spawned legal collisions with the rights of free speech and of action based on religious beliefs. For example, advocates and government officials in certain states already are challenging the long-held right of religious adoption agencies to follow their religious beliefs and only place children in homes with both a mother and a father. As a result, Catholic Charities in Boston has stopped offering adoption services.

Other advocates of same-sex marriage are suggesting that tax exemptions and benefits be withdrawn from any religious organization that does not embrace same-sex unions. Public accommodation laws are already being used as leverage in an attempt to force religious organizations to allow marriage celebrations or receptions in religious facilities that are otherwise open to the public. Accrediting organizations in some instances are asserting pressure on religious schools and universities to provide married housing for same-sex couples. Student religious organizations are being told by some universities that they may lose their campus recognition and benefits if they

exclude same-sex couples from club membership.

Many of these examples have already become the legal reality in several nations of the European Union, and the European Parliament has recommended that laws guaranteeing and protecting the rights of same-sex couples be made uniform across the EU. Thus, if same-sex marriage becomes a recognized civil right, there will be substantial conflicts with religious freedom. And in some important areas, religious freedom may be diminished." ("The Divine Institution of Marriage"-Dallin H. Oaks)

INTERESTING RESEARCH FINDINGS SHOW LACK OF "TOLERANCE" WITH GAY MEN TOWARDS TRANSGENDERS OF THE MALE TO FEMALE POPULATION:

WHILE WORKING ON MY SOCIAL WORK MASTERS DEGREE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII- ANOTHER COLLEAGUE (MY CLOSE LESBIAN FRIEND-AFTER YEARS IS STILL MY CLOSE FRIEND) AND I DECIDED TO DO OUR RESEARCH ON THE TRANSGENDER POPULATION. SHE INITIATED WORKING WITH THIS POPULATION. THIS WAS BASED ON QUALITATIVE RESEARCH. TO OUR SURPRISE, OUR FINDINGS SHOWED SOMETHING QUITE TROUBLING. HERE IS WHAT WE DISCOVERED.

ALL OF THOSE WE HAD INTERVIEWED, PASSIONATELY EXPRESSED THAT THEY HAVE BEEN DISCRIMINATED THE MOST AMONGST GAY MEN THAN ANY OTHER POPULATION (HETEROSEXUAL, WOMEN, STRAIGHT MEN). THEY CONTINUED BY EXPRESSING HOW SOME OF THESE GAY MEN WOULD AT TIMES LET THEM KNOW THAT THEY ARE A DISGRACE TO THE MALE GENDER AND WERE ALSO TREATED WITH HATE, ANGER, CRUELTY, EMBARRASSMENT AND SHAME.

WHAT IS INTERESTING ABOUT THIS FINDING IS THE FACT THAT THESE GAY MEN, HAVE ALSO FELT AND EXPERIENCED THE HARMING EFFECTS OF INTOLERANCE, YET THEY WERE NOW DISPLACING THIS SAME TYPE OF INHUMANE BEHAVIOR ON THESE TRANSGENDER POPULATION. YOU WOULD THINK THERE WOULD BE SOME EMPATHY AND "TOLERANCE" TO WHAT THESE GAY MEN HAVE EXPERIENCED.

IS IT REALLY ABOUT "EQUAL RIGHTS" AND THE ISSUE OF "INTOLERANCE"? SOMETHING TO REALLY PONDER AND EXAMINE.

I urge you to vote NO on S.B. 1. Thank you for your time and leadership.

Sincerely,
Janell Yim
Hawaii Voter

Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am writing in opposition to SB 1. I ask that you consider not voting on this bill during this upcoming special session. But, rather allow for more time to consider and possibly revise this bill and allow the people of Hawaii to have their voices be heard by voting on the issue themselves.

I believe that this is an issue that the people of Hawaii have a strong opinion on and should be allowed to have their voices heard. I ask that you allow us, the people, to vote on the issue for ourselves. I do not feel that the opinions of the majority is currently being properly represented in this special session. Fifteen years ago the people were given the power to make their voices heard on the same issue we are now looking at. At the time, I was only thirteen years old and not old enough to make my opinion heard. Now I ask that you allow me to do so.

The governor has stated that churches religious freedoms will be protected from having their religious rights violated. However, according to the current bill, I don't believe that the religious freedoms of many churches in the state of Hawaii will not be protected because many churches extend the use of their facilities to the public and, therefore, would not be under any sort of protection to exercise their religious opinion regarding marriage.

I ask that you do not rush this decision and take time to look at the issue closer. If you feel that this is a matter that the people should not be allowed to vote on, then I ask that you please take more time to consider the. Hawaii voted in favor of traditional marriage then and I believe that opinion has not changed since. I don't believe that this special session is necessary and that extra time to discuss with the public more extensively would be beneficial to making a decision such as the defining of marriage.

Respectfully,

Jared Nielson

From: [Jared Pruitt](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 6:54:38 AM
Attachments: [Petition 2.pdf](#)

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

Hello. My name is Jared Pruitt. I reside in Mililani, and I vehemently oppose SB 1.

SB 1 is much too vague in its religious exemption language. It leaves room for obligating any religious organization or church to perform a marriage ceremony for any same sex couple. Why aren't there specific provisions and protections in the bill that explicitly say churches and religious organizations are not obligated to perform same sex marriages. Instead, SB 1 gives three stipulations that the churches and religious organizations MUST meet in order to be exempt. If a church doesn't meet those criterion, it is vulnerable to be forced to perform a same sex marriage which is in direct opposition to its faith and beliefs. I believe that legalizing same sex marriage without protecting churches and religious organizations is a direct violation of the U.S. Constitution's First Amendment. A church or religious organization should not be forced by the government or any law it creates to perform any service which violates its tenants of faith and beliefs.

Please, let the people decide on this issue, and don't make this bill law until the regular session next year.

I am attaching a petition that I started at [moveon.org](#). It is signed by 1,279 others who feel the same way. We hope that you will listen to the voices of the people you serve.

Thank you for your time and for serving the people of Hawaii.

Jared P.K. Pruitt

Mililani, HI, 96789

Opposition

Dear The Hawaii State House and Governor Neil Abercrombie,

We are pleased to present you with this petition affirming this statement:

"Stop the government from restricting our churches and religious organizations the right to freely exercise their beliefs. "

Attached is a list of individuals who have added their names to this petition, as well as additional comments written by the petition signers themselves.

Sincerely,
Jared Pruitt

Janice Pearson
Honolulu, HI 96821
Oct 27, 2013

Stop!!!

Rhonda Pagharion
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 27, 2013

This is a democracy and you should let the people decide. By just signing the act into law you are insulting the people of Hawaii. You are implying that we are stupid.

Audrey Shiotsu
Hawaii, HI 96826
Oct 27, 2013

Al Akiona
Honolulu, HI 96821
Oct 27, 2013

Stop the government from restricting our churches and religious organizations the right to freely Exercise their beliefs

Flora Arceo
Honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 27, 2013

Allow the people to decide!

Verda Jenkins
Kea'au, HI 96749
Oct 27, 2013

I will be praying the for favor and grace of God and His perfect will be done.

Esther Poor
Haleiwa, HI 96712
Oct 27, 2013

Kill the Governor's Bill

Jane Haynes
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 27, 2013

You are trying to force us to accept something against our religious beliefs. You not representing the people but your own agenda. Stop trying to redefine morality... government is not our God.

Sharon P.
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 27, 2013

Brandon p
kahului, HI 96732
Oct 27, 2013

I am against the same sex marriage. Tadao Saito

Tadao Saito
Honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 27, 2013

Jared A.
Kahului, HI 96732
Oct 27, 2013

Marriage is between a man and a woman - please protect the sanctity of marriage!!!!

William Silva Jr
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 27, 2013

Stop the government from restricting our churches and religious organizations the right to freely exercise their beliefs.

Pam Silva
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 27, 2013

Jamilah Hernandez
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 27, 2013

Walter
Kahului, HI 96732
Oct 27, 2013

Eunice Chang
Hon, HI 96817
Oct 27, 2013

No same sex marriage

Georgette DeMello
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 27, 2013

James A Mitchell
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 27, 2013

I do not want same sex marriages.

Kumiko Saito
Honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 27, 2013

Kelfred Chang
Honolulu, HI 96814
Oct 27, 2013

Ryan Nakao
Pukalani, HI 96768
Oct 27, 2013

I believe that marriage is sacred and should be for a man and a woman. Great values and balance is best.

Shiloh
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 27, 2013

Paul Thome
hilo, HI 96720
Oct 27, 2013

Melanie Nakabayashi
Ewa beach, HI 96706
Oct 27, 2013

Jamey Catlett
Waianae, HI 96792
Oct 27, 2013

Maren
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 27, 2013

Ioane Kaulia
Waianae, HI 96792

Oct 27, 2013

Krista Duncan
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 27, 2013

Julian Kaulia
Waianae, HI 96792
Oct 27, 2013

Kaipo Thomas
Pukalani, HI 96768
Oct 27, 2013

Keneka Kaulia
Kailua, Kona, HI 96740
Oct 27, 2013

James Igawa
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 27, 2013

Maki Catlett
Waianae, HI 96792
Oct 27, 2013

Please Let the People Vote!! Why are you rushing something as big as this?

Dennis Kaulia
Kailua, Kona, HI 96740
Oct 27, 2013

Jean Watanabe
pearl city, HI 96782
Oct 27, 2013

Please leave marriage the way God intended and created it to be: between a man and a woman.

Kay Sooto
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 27, 2013

Please let the people decide. So much is focusing on the adults.....but consider the keiki of Hawaii. Please stop and think our our future of our keiki.

Lei Hatcher
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 27, 2013

Marriage will open a "Pandora's box" as Massachusetts and other states are finding out. It's only the beginning of the invasion of the filth they'll force on us as a society if same-sex marriage is passed in our beautiful state of Hawaii.

Tau Sooto
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 27, 2013

Brittney Bostaph
Lihue, HI 96766
Oct 27, 2013

Marriage was designed by God to be between a man and a woman. I'm saying NO (once again) to the same sex marriage bill.

Donna Faainuinu
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 27, 2013

Chiharu Sakai
HONOLULU, HI 96817-5341
Oct 27, 2013

Michinari Sakai
HONOLULU, HI 96817-5341
Oct 27, 2013

malcolm akiona
wailuku maui, HI 96793
Oct 27, 2013

Please check out what has happened to Mass. and other states when they legalized same sex marriage-please let the people vote on this.

Robin Ventura
Makawao, HI 96768
Oct 27, 2013

Dawn Rodriguz
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 27, 2013

Please don't restrict my religious freedoms!

Roniza Trinidad
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 27, 2013

What is the rush? Please put it before the people to vote in the next election.

DAVID MARCIEL
PUKALANI, HI 96768
Oct 27, 2013

David Tervooren
Kihei, HI 96753
Oct 27, 2013

Shahlise Wainui
Kahului, HI 96732
Oct 27, 2013

Governor is forcing this down the State's throat. There is no urgency. Cancel the Special Session

Kenneth Meinken
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 26, 2013

Ray Sackett
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 26, 2013

David Fisbeck
hilo, HI 96720
Oct 26, 2013

Vote NO special session for same sex marriage.

Harriet Carmody
Pearl City, HI 96782
Oct 26, 2013

jocelyn asato
Wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 26, 2013

Janet Aelani McCary
Wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 26, 2013

Ana rubio
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 26, 2013

I am for traditional marriage between a man and a women and believe we the people have the right to vote on something that is so major to our family values. Plus, I believe we have religious rights and that our churches and ministers have religious rights to marry who they want according to their own convictions and they need to be upheld and honored not penalized!!. Thank you for hearing my voice!!

Kim Tongg
Makawao, HI 96768
Oct 26, 2013

Dora Baldwin
Honolulu, HI 96813
Oct 26, 2013

Melodee Lingaton
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 26, 2013

Kalei Baldwin
Honolulu, HI 96813
Oct 26, 2013

Didn't the people of Hawaii vote against same sex marriage? Doesn't the will of the people deserve to be honored by elected officials? The people of Hawaii are not willing to prostitute themselves for money. Remember our state motto: The life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness.

Dannette Caires
Kula, HI 96790
Oct 26, 2013

Don Baldwin Jr.
Honolulu, HI 96813
Oct 26, 2013

Marriage is for a Man & Woman. Who can make a family. We will pay for it big time . You won't see it now, put you will down the road. May the load have mercy on all who vote yes on this bill. The people have spoken all ready. And it has fallen on deaf ears.

Douglas E. Jensen
Makawao, HI 95768-0859
Oct 26, 2013

Emily Ventura
Kula, HI 96700
Oct 26, 2013

shaun waite
makawao, HI 96768
Oct 26, 2013

Kristin Holstein
Honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 26, 2013

Let's keep America the land of the free. Stop restricting our churches and religious organizations the right to freely express their beliefs. Thank you.

Patsy Torres
AP, AP 96376
Oct 26, 2013

I oppose the redefinition of marriage to be anything other than between a man and a woman. Also, the bill needs to have specific protections in place for clergy, religious organizations, small businesses and their owners, and even public officers who object as a matter of conscience to officiating in a same-sex marriage.

Nate Black
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 26, 2013

Kathleen Sweet
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 26, 2013

I support traditional marriage

Kimberly Pagaduan
Wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 26, 2013

Please don't take away our religious freedoms.

Lynda G. Thompson
Paia, HI 96779
Oct 26, 2013

melanie m. olson
honolulu, HI 30906
Oct 26, 2013

Jolambereen Mawae Mollena
Hoolehua, HI 96729
Oct 26, 2013

Mark Muranishi
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 26, 2013

Lurline De Costa
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 26, 2013

I'm opposed to SB. Proper marriage is between 1man and 1woman. If someone feels differently they don't have the right to we'd in my church.

Adrian Aiu
Kahuku, HI 96731
Oct 26, 2013

The concept of "Marriage" is very simple and universal that it's valuable union between Man and Woman to create ideal family.

Norihisa Shiotsu
Honolulu, HI 96826
Oct 26, 2013

We the people had voted against this . Stop this non sense now.

George Pelekane
Kailua Kona, HI 96740
Oct 26, 2013

John Henry
Wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 26, 2013

Let the people to decide and vote, I believe that sex & marriage is design by God; between a man and a woman. Because it is sacred act and you can not violate it. Just like any race or ethnicity it is sacred and you can not violate it, how do you sacralize ethnicity & desacralize marriage! " A disposition or a proclivity does not justify expressing that disposition and that proclivity. That goes across the board for all sexuality" -Ravi Zacharias Ravi Zacharias link <http://vimeo.com/16389232>

Marcelino Madayag
Kauai, HI 96756
Oct 26, 2013

Joshua Kim
Wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 26, 2013

Imelda
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 26, 2013

Marissa Asato
Kahului, HI 96732

Oct 26, 2013

Keep tradition marriage. One man - One women. Don't confuse our Keiki. Gov. Abercrombie pls. find a quite time with God, Allow Him to search your heart, inquiry in Him..in Jesus' mighty name Amen.

kuulei Nohara
Honolulu, HI 96826
Oct 26, 2013

No on same sex marriage

Betty Lou Aurelio
Wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 26, 2013

Justine Kaina
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 26, 2013

I am against the Same Sex Marriage Bill

Jonavan Asato
Wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 26, 2013

Vic
Honolulu, HI 96813
Oct 26, 2013

Luana
Kahului, HI 96732
Oct 26, 2013

Keep tradition marriage. God please help us.

Keala
Kailua Hi, HI 96734
Oct 26, 2013

KEEP TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE IN OUR STATE!!! Times are already tough, why make it worse by changing the law!! There are already reciprocal beneficiary benefits in place and that is sufficient! God help us if this bill passes...

Michelle Domingcil
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 26, 2013

Marguerite Jensen
Makawao, HI 96768

Oct 26, 2013

Pls. honor our voice -we have stated 2xs that we want Marriage is between one man & one woman. Don't ignore our requests..

Sandra Ban-Martin
Wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 26, 2013

We need to keep our traditional (1man, 1woman) family for our kids's sake. Please do not confuse them.

Linda TSUI
Honolulu, HI 96825
Oct 26, 2013

the people of hawaii have voted NO twice to same sex marriage! Listen to our voices!

ericka gaastra
Lahaina, HI 96761
Oct 26, 2013

Kenneth Ching
Honolulu, HI 96815
Oct 26, 2013

We voted once before that we should NOT legalize same sex marriage...when the people have spoken, why is the Governor changing the method of legislating a law he wants approved?

Paula Elarionoff
Kamuela, HI 96743
Oct 26, 2013

Beverly Saito
Haleiwa, HI 96712
Oct 26, 2013

Eva Hubbard
Waianae, HI 96792
Oct 26, 2013

Passing this bill will be detrimental to the People and the State of Hawaii. Vote NO and DO NOT pass this bill on same -sex marriage.

charel Gabriel
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 26, 2013

May we get God back in America and maybe we will be blessed as a Country. Our Country is being destroyed and has so much evil in it! God Bless America!!

Stacy Robbinis
Newalla, OK 74857
Oct 26, 2013

Shane Adolpho
Wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 26, 2013

Mary Bea King
Lihue, HI 96766
Oct 26, 2013

Perlita Byrne-Herzog
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 26, 2013

Phil Robinson
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 26, 2013

Susan Robinson
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 26, 2013

Please let the people of Hawaii vote and decide.

Naomi Chang
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 26, 2013

Michele Kamau
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 26, 2013

This has got to stop - this country is founded on religious liberty

Sandra Musselman
Kailua Kona, HI 96740
Oct 26, 2013

Marriage is a word for one man and one woman, not to b redefined by the government.

Karma Langer
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 26, 2013

Judy Byce
Koloa, HI 96756
Oct 26, 2013

As stated in Queen Liliuokalani's Constitution, the Holy Bible, marriage is between a Man and a Woman

Glenna Tsugawa
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 26, 2013

Lynda S Shimodoi
WAILUKU, HI 96793
Oct 26, 2013

Audrey Byrd
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 26, 2013

Florence Tanaka
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 26, 2013

al kaanana
IAHAINA, HI 96761
Oct 26, 2013

Let the people decide.

karen miyataki
kailua, HI 96734
Oct 26, 2013

Rosaline Ching
Honolulu, HI 96813
Oct 26, 2013

Protect marriage! Protect our children and their future!

Tierra Foster
Wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 26, 2013

One Man and One Woman

Geraldine and Ronald Tsuzuki
Honolulu, HI 96815
Oct 26, 2013

Let the people vote!

Heidi Ka'aihue-Lacsina
Kea'au, HI 96749
Oct 26, 2013

Patrick Zukeran
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 26, 2013

Woletta kim
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 26, 2013

Erik Verhoef
Honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 26, 2013

Esther Verhoef
Honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 26, 2013

Sandi Akamine
kahului, HI 96732
Oct 26, 2013

Our churches must be able to uphold their beliefs!

Kathleen S. Watanabe
Wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 26, 2013

Noela Nance
Honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 26, 2013

Linda Teruya
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 26, 2013

Richard Chang
Honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 26, 2013

Timothy Strauwald
Kapa'a, HI 96746
Oct 26, 2013

maui wolfgramm
kailua, HI 96734
Oct 26, 2013

Michael Thomas
Wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 26, 2013

juanita wolfgramm
kailua, HI 96734
Oct 26, 2013

sharrel souza
hon, HI 96825
Oct 26, 2013

Mary Akiona
Wailuku Maui., HI 96793
Oct 26, 2013

Haliaka Kama
Kihei, HI 96753
Oct 26, 2013

Lanae Akiona
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 26, 2013

Respect the people who passed a Constitutional Amendment to keep traditional marriage. gay people have Civil Unions which gives them equality

Glen kelly
Wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 26, 2013

Lana Lando
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 26, 2013

Keala Gasmen
Wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 26, 2013

William
Waianae, HI 96789
Oct 26, 2013

Heidi Turner
Lahaina, HI 96761
Oct 26, 2013

Let the people vote.

Folau Finau
Kahului, HI 96733
Oct 26, 2013

Kahea Tancayo
Kihei, HI 96753
Oct 26, 2013

Leroy Perry
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 26, 2013

Please stop the special session and put it on the ballot and let the people of Hawaii allow their voice to be heard.

Tiffany mancao
Pinene, HI 96784
Oct 26, 2013

Raymond Pasi
Hauula, HI 96717
Oct 26, 2013

I OPPOSE SAME-SEX MARRIAGE THIS BILLis NEEDS 2 BE REVISED. OUR RELIGIOUS BELIEFS ARE AT STAKE & IT VIOLATES OUR OUR AMENDMENTS. STOP THIS BILL NOW. WE VOTED & OPPOSED IT!! AMBERCOMBIE YOU WILL NEVER HAVE A SECOND TERM!!! GET OUT OF HAWAII GOVERNMENT

Tammie Mokiao-Atimalala
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 26, 2013

Lois Colton
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 26, 2013

the government has no right to force ANYONE to go against there beliefs. I do believe this is what the constitution meant by freedom of religion!

carol yahiel
honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 26, 2013

Steve J Santos
Lahaina, HI 96761
Oct 26, 2013

jodie sajor
Wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 26, 2013

Laurie McClary
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 26, 2013

Let the people vote, please!

darien okubo
Wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 26, 2013

Mahealani Strong
Wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 26, 2013

Alexander John Ortiz RN, BA, AS, AA.
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 26, 2013

Frank Gobel
Lahaina, HI 96761
Oct 26, 2013

Stop Same Sex Legislation. Kill the Govenor's Bill.

LIETTE CORPUS
KAUNAKAKAI, HI 96748
Oct 26, 2013

BRAD EMMERICH
LAHAINA, HI 96767
Oct 26, 2013

Hannah KIRN
Captain Cook, HI 96704
Oct 26, 2013

Xuemei Prtiz
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 26, 2013

John eddy
Wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 26, 2013

shari Akiyama
Honolulu, HI 96825
Oct 26, 2013

Paula Siaosi Ngalu
Kihei, HI 96753
Oct 26, 2013

Alice Enos
Hauula, HI 96717
Oct 26, 2013

natalie mawae
Maunaloa, HI 96770
Oct 26, 2013

Lucy Parkin
Honolulu, HI 96813
Oct 26, 2013

Stop the governors special session voting for for equality, same sex marriage. Let the people of Hawaii vote, let the people of Hawaii's voice be heard not our leadership voting for us

Shirley eddy
Wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 26, 2013

Lisa Shelly
Honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 26, 2013

Deborah Malauulu
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 26, 2013

kellee emmerich
lahaina, HI 96767
Oct 26, 2013

Christopher Pascua
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 26, 2013

Laura Hoogerwerf
Honolulu, HI 96820
Oct 26, 2013

Tanya Guevara
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 26, 2013

Please keep marriage between a man and a woman.

Lauranne Tugade
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 26, 2013

Joseph P Picon
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 26, 2013

Marriage is a holy union between a MAN AND WOMAN. This is a perfect example of blind tolerance by the people and slowly turning these United States into a modern day Sodom and Gomorra. There is Nothing holy about same sex marriage and homosexuality. 1 Corinthians 6:9

Pat Sensano
Wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 26, 2013

I do not support same sex marriage

Doreen Noborikawa
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 26, 2013

Benito Seveses
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 26, 2013

Please allow the people of Hawaii vote on this very important issue! This country was founded on principles of religious liberty and that must be maintained.

Michele Bauer
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 26, 2013

Janis Chun
Honolulu, HI 96825
Oct 26, 2013

Melody Habon
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 26, 2013

Rosa Maria Seveses
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 26, 2013

Gods law between marriage is for only between a man and a woman, not a man to a dog or another man, or a woman to another wooommmmaaaannnnn!!!!!!!!!!!!

vaaiti M
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 26, 2013

Please let the people decide what marriage should be. It was decided a while ago that it should be between a man and a woman. Thank you.

JAYSON TUGADE
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 26, 2013

Adi
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 26, 2013

Danielle Brockett
Pearl City, HI 96782
Oct 26, 2013

I believe that we, the people of Hawaii, should be able to vote on this issue.

Evelyn Hascall
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 26, 2013

Gene Ross K. Davis
Kaunakakai, HI 96748
Oct 26, 2013

Christine Chu
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 26, 2013

Let the people vote!!

Sins
Pahoa, HI 96778

Oct 26, 2013

Joeli T Kama
Kihei, HI 96753
Oct 26, 2013

Basilio U. Ringor Jr.
Wahiawa, HI 96786
Oct 26, 2013

Erica Rabe
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 26, 2013

Let the people vote!

Maja Kama
Kihei, HI 96753
Oct 26, 2013

Let the People Vote!

Kuulei Iranon
Keaau, HI 96749
Oct 26, 2013

Dennis Young
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 26, 2013

Susan Ching
Honolulu, HI 96921
Oct 26, 2013

Jedidiah Min
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 26, 2013

Protect marriage and the family structure which God designed.

Victoria Sensano
wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 26, 2013

Protect OUR rights as well

Carolyn Harris
Honolulu, HI 96825
Oct 26, 2013

Carl Baltensperger
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 26, 2013

Let the people vote on this.

Ken Everett
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 26, 2013

Laura Colandrea
Honolulu, HI 96821
Oct 25, 2013

Thank you for hearing the people of Hawaii.

Josephine Barayuga
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 25, 2013

Caroline Kaholoaa
Hoolehua, HI 96729
Oct 25, 2013

Jahziel Tuppal
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 25, 2013

Lahela Lung
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 25, 2013

Jeffrey Tyau
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 25, 2013

Stop same sex marriage..

Noelani Maglinti
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 25, 2013

This proposed bill is illegal as the governor does not have the power to write bills. He is pushing an agenda upon the people of Hawaii in an effort to destroy the family unit. There are 34 states which do not agree with same sex marriage and there is none other trying to push during a special session. Voting by the people is the only positive solution.

Susan Daley
Keaau, HI 96749
Oct 25, 2013

Carl O. Ericksen
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 25, 2013

Cherie Tsukamoto
Honolulu, HI 96825
Oct 25, 2013

Amy Perdue
Lihue, HI 96766
Oct 25, 2013

Rodney murakami
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 25, 2013

Joseph Cazimero Jr.
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 25, 2013

Emilie Davis
Hoolehua, HI 96729
Oct 25, 2013

jerry mancao
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 25, 2013

Marlene k. Sproat
Kaunakakai, HI 96748
Oct 25, 2013

I support religious liberty in Hawaii

Rosemary Cooper
Kalaheo, HI 96741
Oct 25, 2013

Let the People Decide!!

Cheryl Davis
Hoolehua, HI 96729
Oct 25, 2013

Joe Pututau
Pleasant Grove, UT 84062
Oct 25, 2013

Gail Yoneshige
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 25, 2013

Dennis Tulang
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 25, 2013

This is breaking the freedom of religion laws as well as the equality rights!

Katelyn McBeth
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 25, 2013

Dory Chang
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 25, 2013

Anita Aquino
Lihue, HI 96766
Oct 25, 2013

Charleen gillis
kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 25, 2013

Alaina Valente
Miliani, HI 96789
Oct 25, 2013

Wanetta S. Vierra
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 25, 2013

Ellen Yamane
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 25, 2013

We don't want gay marriage legalized in HI! Listen to the majority!

janet bacon
LAHAINA, HI 96761
Oct 25, 2013

This bill is not ready to be considered. Please do not vote it into being.

Beth Bachran
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 25, 2013

wanda
kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 25, 2013

Keith Hirata
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 25, 2013

Vote No on the same sex marriage

Rose Marie Camacho
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 25, 2013

Ann Lopez-Hirata
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 25, 2013

Akane Daubner
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 25, 2013

Stop the government from restricting our churches and religious organizations the right to freely exercise their beliefs.

Joyce Kapololu
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 25, 2013

Please stop, enough already about Adam & Steve having the right to marry.

Vincent Goodwin
Hanalei, HI 96714
Oct 25, 2013

Lorraine Tanuvasa
Honolulu, HI 96814
Oct 25, 2013

DAVID TUCKER
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 25, 2013

Eldene Albino
Hoolehua, HI 96729
Oct 25, 2013

We were created in the image of God the Father and all that we have here on this earth was given for our benefit in goodness and righteousness. God created man and woman and commanded them to multiply and replenish the earth. God has commanded that the Sacred Power of Procreation are to be employed between man and women, lawfully wedded as husband and wife. The Family is central to the Creators plan for the eternal destiny of his children. Because of the rapid growth in technology, media, and the corruption of material and worldly things exploited before our natural eyes, the value of family, the importance of traditions, the respect and acknowledgement of God the Father is diminishing quickly and the hastening of Destruction is nigh at hand. We are blessed with the gift of Agency, but we need to use wisdom and think who provide us with all that we have, "Our Heavenly Father"!

Jossette Mawae Mollena
Hoolehua, HI 96729
Oct 25, 2013

Needs more time for legislators to review and consider and hear testimony. This should be heard in regular session and put before the registered voters of Hawaii for a vote.

Janette Magalei
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 25, 2013

I oppose same sex marriage

Charles Couch Jr
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 25, 2013

Mary Ann Araki
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 25, 2013

Kathleen Hashimoto
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 25, 2013

luxiao he

honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 25, 2013

Joyce Lau
Honolulu, HI 96828
Oct 25, 2013

I oppose same sex marriage in Hawaii GODS original design. Is marriage between one man/one woman which Best promotes healthy families and a Stable society.

May L Au
Hauula,, HI 96717
Oct 25, 2013

Vote No to same-sex marriage

Joanne Situ
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 25, 2013

First Amendment rights protect the People's freedom to exercise religion as they see fit! This includes abstaining from the uniting of same-sex 'couples by their religious leaders or on their property.

Natalie Sheets
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 25, 2013

No same-sex marriage

Lily Kamei
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 25, 2013

Please vote "No" to same-sex marriage

Cindy Ki
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 25, 2013

Christina Martiney
Lihue, HI 96766
Oct 25, 2013

This is a decision that must be made by society. We've already voted and as a society declared the truth that marriage is only between a man and a woman. Allowing this bill to pass will degrade the sacred institution of marriage and have severe negative repercussions here in Hawaii.

Samiuela Tolutau
Laie, HI 96762

Oct 25, 2013

lai ue liu
waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 25, 2013

Bernard Prescott
Hauula, HI 96717
Oct 25, 2013

Lillie Tongi
Kahuku, HI 96731
Oct 25, 2013

Cristina Gilkey
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 25, 2013

zhijun Zhou
honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 25, 2013

Kyli Joe Mawae
Hoolehua, HI 96729
Oct 25, 2013

Trinette Kau
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 25, 2013

This decision should not be made by politicians or judges, but by a vote of the people.

Scott Reynolds
Kilauea, HI 96754
Oct 25, 2013

Alvin Kawaa
Hoolehua, HI 96729
Oct 25, 2013

I fully oppose same sex marriage. An issue this important to the welfare of society as a whole should not be voted on by a few, but by those people that will have to live by it. The term "marriage" needs to be reserved for the lawful union between one man and one woman.

Kathryn Mundy
Kahului, HI 96732
Oct 25, 2013

Rosalie M.Tadda
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 25, 2013

Beverly Yamada
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 25, 2013

Gives PEOPLE the right to decide this monumental issue which affects lives of our children!

Ada Mark
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 25, 2013

Miriam Pilar
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 25, 2013

Mel Rosario
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 25, 2013

I totally object to same sex marriage and ask that the people have the opportunity to vote on it.

Lloyd Ignacio
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 25, 2013

Elsa souza
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 25, 2013

ABERCROMBIE LISTEN TO THE PEOPLE AND GO BACK TO NEW YORK AND STAY THERE.
ALOHA MEANS BUH BYE!

Derwin Villanueva
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 25, 2013

The issue here is not civil rights, the issue here is the sanctity of marriage and the people's right to decide. I have no problem with "Civil Unions" and legal rights should go along with those unions. I do have a problem with weak politicians caving in to the demands of a minority of people who think they have the right to dictate what my rights should be. I believe in the sanctity of marriage - that it involves one man and one woman - period! Every child deserves the right to one father and one mother. Gods laws cannot be changed, even if man laws try to deem it differently. Take God out of the equation and gay unions are against Natures Law! If we were all supposed to be gay, than there would be no WE! Keep civil unions between gays their term for "marriage" and accord them all the legal rights with that union. Keep marriage as the union between one man and one woman - period! LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE!! It takes the pressure off you and puts it in the hands of the people! Keep God and His churches separate, we should not have to be forced to perform weddings in the very places we hold sacred. This bill needs to be thrown out and a newer stronger one re-written to give more protection to the people that believe that marriage is not something to be bought or sold to the highest bidder!!!

Patricia Spere
Honolulu, HI 96825
Oct 25, 2013

Aaron Curtis
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 25, 2013

Aaron Kawakami
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 25, 2013

Lori Toda
Honolulu, HI 96821
Oct 25, 2013

Raine lactaon
Ewa beach, HI 96706
Oct 25, 2013

Jason Poepoe
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 25, 2013

Greg Hoke
Kula, HI 96790
Oct 25, 2013

Keep marriage traditional between a man and a woman. However, if the same sex marriage bill is passed, the legislature must provide exemptions for all religions and religious leaders from performing such a right.

Derek Fukuda
Pearl City, HI 96782
Oct 25, 2013

LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE!

Garret Shon
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 25, 2013

Hear the voice of the people, and preserve the sacredness of marriage between a man and woman.

Marialuz Dowsett
Ewa beach, HI 96706
Oct 25, 2013

stop the government from restricting our churches and religious organizations the right to freely exercise their beliefs.

Judy Arthur
Kihei, HI 96753
Oct 25, 2013

Steve Lai
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 25, 2013

Mirna Clemente
Ewa beach, HI 96706
Oct 25, 2013

KEEP TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE TRADITIONAL BETWEEN ONE MAN AND ONE WOMAN

Sueyen Ortiz
Lawai, HI 96765
Oct 25, 2013

Delphine
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 25, 2013

John Maher
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 25, 2013

samuel erbe
Hilo, HI 96760
Oct 25, 2013

Sue Davis
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 25, 2013

I do not support same sex marriage

Jadelynne Kalauka
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 25, 2013

Marmionette hopfe
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 25, 2013

Noelani maglinti
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 25, 2013

Jason Gray
Lihu, HI 96766
Oct 25, 2013

Anthony maglinti
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 25, 2013

God ordained marriage as a "Covenant" for one man and one woman. This God's 'forever terms' when He designed marriage.

Melvin Partido Sr
Pearl Cithy, HI 96782
Oct 25, 2013

Stop same sex marriage

Rolling yamamoto
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 25, 2013

I am not in favor of the same sex marriage bill. I hope the people have the opportunity to decide.

Michelle b Liow
Kailua, Central African Republic
Oct 25, 2013

In 1998 the people of the State of Hawaii voted to amend the Hawaii State Constitution to restrict marriage to couples of opposite sex, to prohibit same-sex marriage. That was the intend and will of the people of Hawaii. The vote was 69.2 against same-sex marriage. Please do your duty and defend the Hawaii State Constitution and vote NO.

JOHN LOUGHLIN
MILILANI, HI 96789

Oct 25, 2013

Stop same sex marriage

Yolanda Yamamoto
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 25, 2013

Gladys Zamora
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 25, 2013

Please let the voters decide..Don't assume you know what the majority is in favor for...it is the Pono thing to do!

David Kawamoto
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 25, 2013

greg lee
Honolulu, HI 96826
Oct 25, 2013

I strongly oppose this bill due to the fact of a serious lack of our religious liberties.

Alan Akina
Kahuku, HI 96731
Oct 25, 2013

SAME SEX MARRIAGE WILL IMPACT ALL OF US - & SO SHOULD BE DECIDED BY ALL OF US IN A VOTE. DON'T RAILROAD SAME SEX MARRIAGE ARROGANTLY IGNORING OUR PARTICIPATION IN THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS!

john nakao
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 25, 2013

Patricia Chang
HONOLULU, HI 96816-2746
Oct 25, 2013

Easter Almuena
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 25, 2013

george ng
honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 25, 2013

Ian Scott
Honolulu, HI 96821
Oct 25, 2013

No same sax marriage! Do you want your kids are gay???

victoria chan-ng
honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 25, 2013

Let the people decide on Marriage! As a registered voter, all voices should be heard, an the Legislature's Special Session does not promote democracy.

Melissa
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 25, 2013

Dennis Keanini
Kualapuu, HI 96757
Oct 25, 2013

Wes
kalaheo, HI 96741
Oct 25, 2013

Patricia Keanini
Kualapuu, HI 96757
Oct 25, 2013

Lynn Vasquez
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 25, 2013

Arnold Lavaki
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 25, 2013

Kerri Scott
Honolulu, HI 96821
Oct 25, 2013

Politics should NOT tell us how to live and run our lives. Politicians should be ousted for creating such corruption.

James Chung
Honolulu, HI 96813
Oct 25, 2013

The majority of Hawaii's people don't want same sex marriage. Why don't we have a people's vote on the matter. Let our people decide and they will tell you "straight" that we don't want same sex marriage in our State.

Hank Paresa
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 25, 2013

Marriage is a sacred vow between a man and a woman as ordained by GOD The Father. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. - Genesis 2:24
What therefore GOD hath joined together, let not man put asunder. - Mark 10:9

Mike S.
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 25, 2013

Give the people of Hawaii an opportunity to vote on this issue.

Janette Gonzales
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 25, 2013

Gary H. Watanabe
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 25, 2013

No same sex marriage

Darrell Siu
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 25, 2013

Naomi
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 25, 2013

we reject the same sex marriage.

Yamin Wang
Honolulu, HI 96814
Oct 25, 2013

Let the people vote on this very important issue!

Edwin Tangunan
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 25, 2013

Stop same-sex marriage now, it is a sinful relationship that God will never approve of. He calls it detestable. Marriage is of God, One man and One woman plain and simple don't let the Governor change God's ordained order of Marriage.

Radford Rabe
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 25, 2013

Please stop the controversy and put it to a popular vote.

Sharon Gerald
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 25, 2013

I believe that this goes against the first amendment, because it will affect the way that we practice our religion. It will not allow us to perform the sacred ordinance of marriage in our holy temples, which, for all in my religion, is a very important step in our lives. Please allow us to keep our freedom of religion. This government already has taken so much of our freedom away, and it should not take more of our freedom away because a small percentage of people who want to practice homosexuality. We believe in the true nature of family, and we do not need to give up our traditions. I accept all those who decide to live differently than myself, but, for me and my future family, I would like to make sure that a traditional marriage in the temple will be accessible. Ella

Ella Arume
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 25, 2013

Karen Tan
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 25, 2013

mele strickland
kihei, HI 96753
Oct 25, 2013

Let the people vote and have a say.

Jean Au
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 25, 2013

PLEASE PRESERVE TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE AS GOD INTENDED!!! THANK YOU

Candace Vizcarra
Pearl City, HI 96782
Oct 25, 2013

my response to SAME SEX MARRIAGE is NO. a Concerned Tutu

Charslene K Kanoa
Waimanalo, HI 96795
Oct 25, 2013

DONNA WOLFORD
Waipau, HI 96979
Oct 25, 2013

Janet Kusuhara
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 25, 2013

Lambert Kalanikuikamoku Han
Hoolehua, HI 96729
Oct 25, 2013

Jonathan Nosaka
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 25, 2013

Kill the Bill!

Yasuhara Patti
Honolulu, HI 96825
Oct 25, 2013

Tammy Brown
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 25, 2013

Christine Chae
Honolulu, HI 96825
Oct 25, 2013

Robert Tomlinson
Pahoa, HI 96778
Oct 25, 2013

I vote against same sex marriage and want to freely practice my religious beliefs!!

Genella K Albino
Kualapuu, HI 96757
Oct 25, 2013

Dave Barnett
HONOLULU, HI 96821

Oct 25, 2013

Traci Muramoto
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 25, 2013

Laurie Chow
Hawaii, HI 96766
Oct 25, 2013

It shouldn't be in Government We Trust, It should be in God We trust.

David Defries jr
Anahola, HI 96703
Oct 25, 2013

Ken Young
Honolulu, HI 96826
Oct 25, 2013

Gail Tamashiro
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 25, 2013

Please stop this special session to change what the public has already voted on to keep marriage between a man and woman

Davette
Honolulu,, HI 96819
Oct 25, 2013

Ronald Sasada
Hoolehua, HI 96729
Oct 25, 2013

Sherry Sasada
Hoolehua, HI 96729
Oct 25, 2013

Jonah-Kuhio Kaaui
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 25, 2013

ASHLYNN MAWAE
HOOLEHUA, HI 96729
Oct 25, 2013

I do not in any way support same sex marriage!

Rochelle Kalaukoa
HIlo, HI 96720
Oct 25, 2013

Greg Andres
Torrance, CA 90502
Oct 25, 2013

keil
kaunakakai, HI 96748
Oct 25, 2013

I agree that we need to stop the government from restricting our churches and religious organizations the right to freely exercise their beliefs.

Nani Barnett
HONOLULU, HI 96821
Oct 25, 2013

Please don't put Hawaii in the position of telling God He is wrong. He is a jealous God!

Marv Paularena
Kahului, HI 96732
Oct 25, 2013

I AM NOT IN FAVOR OF THIS BILL...!!! PLEASE HERE THE PEOPLE...!!!

stephanie France
kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 25, 2013

I DO NOT WANT THIS BILL...!!! PLEASE HERE OUR VOICES...!!!

Jude France
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 25, 2013

Christine
Kihei, HI 96753
Oct 25, 2013

I do not support the Same Sex Marriage Bill!

Reynold Tamayei
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 25, 2013

Lillian Hanada
Lihue, HI 96766
Oct 25, 2013

Godfrey Akaka III
Hoolehua, HI 96729
Oct 25, 2013

Godfrey Akaka
Hoolehua, HI 96729
Oct 25, 2013

Jason Akaka
Hoolehua, HI 96729
Oct 25, 2013

Joseph Akaka
Hoolehua, HI 96729
Oct 25, 2013

Kaulanarose Akaka
Hoolehua, HI 96729
Oct 25, 2013

JoDean Akaka
Hoolehua, HI 96729
Oct 25, 2013

This bill will have a big negative impact on our community and on the next generations to come. What are we teaching our kids about our freedom?

Wayne Bacnis
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 25, 2013

Frank Kim
Hon, HI 96822
Oct 25, 2013

Stop compromising to the majority to make changes where there should be no change at all. These laws were put together in the past for a reason, why change what is not broken! Please consider the repercussions of what this would do to our state. Stop playing politics and stand firm and fight for our state laws that is there for a purpose. Question? Who really has the freedom of speech? Does our state have the freedom? Something to ponder on, why are you in your position, why did you run for government, what do you stand for?

Grace Bacnis
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 25, 2013

TRINA PAGAN
Pearl City, HI 96782
Oct 25, 2013

Lucy Jim
Kihei Maui, HI 96753
Oct 25, 2013

Sian Urbanozo
Kamuela, HI 96743
Oct 25, 2013

Eddy Tsing
Kahuku, HI 96731
Oct 25, 2013

Theresa Condit
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 25, 2013

Terenoa Teriitua
Kahuku, HI 96731
Oct 25, 2013

Sarah Turoa
Kahuku, HI 96731
Oct 25, 2013

Stephanie Kua
Lihue, HI 96766
Oct 25, 2013

Bruno Chung
Kahuku, HI 96731
Oct 25, 2013

Janie Johnson
Honolulu, HI 96818

Oct 25, 2013

Please support our moral and religious beliefs. Just like your supporting other beliefs.

Noah Hamilton
Princeville, HI 96722
Oct 25, 2013

Bruce Meyers
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 25, 2013

Michelle
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 25, 2013

stop the special session that the governor has called and let the people vote on same sex marriage.

Blane Kamanu
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 25, 2013

Lily Brunke
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 25, 2013

Londa Chase
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 25, 2013

Kill the bill! I want to exercise my religious freedom and rights of what I believe in.

Dianne Reynolds
Hanalei, HI 96714
Oct 25, 2013

Glenda Buendia
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 25, 2013

Sean Dacuycuy
Hauula, HI 96717
Oct 25, 2013

Qi Hui Gao
honolulu, HI 96814
Oct 25, 2013

Melvin Partido
Federal Way, WA 98001
Oct 25, 2013

How can you in good conscience pass a bill that restricts people from the free exercise of their religion? I believe people have the right to choose a same-sex relationship if that is what they want to choose. By the same token, the government does not have the right to dictate what I can believe, or what I can say about what I believe, or force me or my church to violate our religious beliefs. **DO NOT RESTRICT THE RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS FROM THE FREE EXERCISE OF THEIR BELIEFS.** That means that in no way should the churches be required to perform same-sex marriage- **IN NO WAY, SHAPE OR FORM.** And don't kid yourself, that IS what this is ultimately about.

Sherrie au
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 25, 2013

This effort to make equal all things sounds like the right thing.....but it is not

Scott Jackson
Kapa'a, HI 96746
Oct 25, 2013

Daniel Pagan
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 25, 2013

Kill the bill Marriage is for a man an woman .

Alexander Gines
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 25, 2013

The government should let things be. 15 years ago they brought this to the people to decide by voting and it got shut down. Why are they bringing it up again.

Rochelle K Borden
Hoolehua, HI 96729
Oct 25, 2013

Rachel Kaneshiro
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 25, 2013

Please don't let same sex marriage be legalized in Hawaii. It is against the law of nature. It will create chaos in Hawaii. Please....if you still care and love this island.

Jian Li
Honolulu, HI 96817

Oct 25, 2013

I support Traditional Marriage!!

Nikki Pagan
Pearl City, HI 96782
Oct 25, 2013

Roseller Asuncion
Lihue, HI 96766
Oct 25, 2013

let the people vote on an election. we already voted this before

Randy B. Diana
Anahola, HI 96703
Oct 25, 2013

Utahna Harris
Waikoloa, HI 96738
Oct 25, 2013

Let the people chose. No more government interference

Michael Chandler
Waimea, HI 96796
Oct 25, 2013

Amy Wong
HONOLULU, HI 96814
Oct 25, 2013

Sabrina Najarian
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 25, 2013

Ronald Pascua
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 25, 2013

This bill violate what the government has always pushed on religious people & organizations - "separation of church & state." If this bill is passed, then school & other places should be allowed to bring God back into their facilities. Getting married in churches is not the only way for gays to get married. They can go to a justice of the peace, or find a church that supports their lifestyle. It's unconstitutional to take away church rights to stand up for what they believe!!

Belyn Sybor
Kaunakakai, HI 96748
Oct 25, 2013

I believe the government should stay out of it !!! And everyone has the right to share their religion or Christianity !!! Freedom of speech !!!

Karen Scott
Texarkana, TX 75501
Oct 25, 2013

Chris Sutton
Lake Oswego, OR 97035
Oct 25, 2013

Stop the government from restricting our churches and religious organizations the right to freely exercise their beliefs.

Laura Collier
Westport, WA 98595
Oct 25, 2013

Nita sawyer
Kapolei, HI 96709
Oct 25, 2013

Arnette Nakamura
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 25, 2013

James Ederer
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 25, 2013

Stop the governor asap.

shelley
waimanalo, HI 96795
Oct 25, 2013

Gerald L Reiss
Keaau, HI 96749

Oct 25, 2013

Cynthia Chow
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 25, 2013

ali soho
pasig, Philippines
Oct 25, 2013

carl burns
Waianae, HI 96792
Oct 25, 2013

Shelby Caraballo
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 25, 2013

Bonny Herbert
Kihei, HI 96753
Oct 25, 2013

Let the people decide

Clifton Lee Burchfield
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 25, 2013

Stop same sex marriage.

Anthony maglinti
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 25, 2013

Stop same sex marriage.. Keep traditional marriage..

Shizuko holm
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 25, 2013

janet baumgartner
lihue, HI 96766
Oct 25, 2013

Denise Bird
Kailua Kona, HI 96740
Oct 25, 2013

isidoro E. Gabriel
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 25, 2013

Dean Mabalot
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 25, 2013

Churches should be able to exercise their beliefs. If they own their facility and land, they should be exempt from discriminating lease of facilities for same sex marriage ceremonies if the churches' beliefs do not condone same sex marriage.

Lorene Park
Mili, HI 96789
Oct 25, 2013

No to special session! We the people have that right to exercise our democratic process to protect our freedom of speech and right to stand for our beliefs....no to same sex marriage!

Pio Sua-Godinet
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 25, 2013

Veronica P. Kaanga
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 25, 2013

Raymond K. Kaanga
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 25, 2013

Katherine G. Kaanga
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 25, 2013

Stop same sex marriage

Albert Wong
Lihue, HI 96766
Oct 25, 2013

Shanna Wang
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 25, 2013

Blanca Larson
kapolei, HI 96709
Oct 25, 2013

Iolani Kamauu
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 25, 2013

Erin
Honolulu, HI 96826
Oct 25, 2013

Michelle Gabriel
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 25, 2013

Let the people decide!

Jennifer Sepada
Honolulu, HI 96815
Oct 25, 2013

Dujduen Santeci
Kahuku, HI 96731
Oct 25, 2013

Erik Scruton
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 25, 2013

Paul A. Pancho
Eleele, HI 96705
Oct 25, 2013

The people voted before and it was unanimous...72% against same sex marriage

Aaron Cummings
Kilauea, HI 96754
Oct 25, 2013

Denise
honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 25, 2013

The people should be able to vote on this issue and the way this bill stands at this time doesn't clearly lay out important protections for any religious organizations from keeping a same-sex marriage from occurring their facility or property due to our beliefs

Rachelle Nam
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 25, 2013

Robert Torres
HONOLULU, HI 96816
Oct 25, 2013

Donna Torres
HONOLULU, HI 96816
Oct 25, 2013

John W Holmes
Aiea, HI 96701-2830
Oct 25, 2013

Kris Krieger
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 25, 2013

To support religious freedom. All people should have freedom for what they believe.

Jean Tsukamoto
Honolulu, HI 96814
Oct 25, 2013

Vote NO on SB1!!

Linda Reece
Kahuku, HI 96731
Oct 25, 2013

Marlene Hironaka
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 25, 2013

Gail Ann K Tamashiro
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 25, 2013

Tiffany Tan
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 25, 2013

Seth Scott Launder
kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 25, 2013

Haroldine Kronenberger
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 25, 2013

Miki Uyeda
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 25, 2013

Patrick Mathews
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 25, 2013

Valerie Mathews
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 25, 2013

Yunfeng Zhai
Honolulu, HI 96814
Oct 25, 2013

Mary Ascheman
Kailua, IL 96734
Oct 25, 2013

The people of Hawaii have already voiced their opinion that marriage is between one man and one woman.

Mr. & Mrs. Ronald & Ramona Young
Honolulu, HI 96825
Oct 25, 2013

Jing Hu
Honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 25, 2013

Maye Kepoo
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 25, 2013

Libert Chung
Honolulu, HI 96813
Oct 25, 2013

Dan Douglass
Honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 25, 2013

Danilo Sanchez
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 25, 2013

Please allow the people to vote. We need an the avenue for voting. This should never be decided by the legislature! Mahalo.

Suzanne Maurer
Honolulu, HI 96821
Oct 25, 2013

Olivia Russell
Honolulu, HI 96825
Oct 25, 2013

Nelson Secretario
Lihue, HI 96766
Oct 25, 2013

Marla McManus
Kihei, HI 96753
Oct 25, 2013

Maureen Nunes
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 25, 2013

Sue Rosco
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 25, 2013

I support traditional marriage between a man and woman and my values come from the word of God, who loves all people but not necessarily the choices they make.

Pala i. Viena
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 25, 2013

GARY LAU
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 25, 2013

Sean Mullaney
Pearl City, HI 96782
Oct 25, 2013

Religious institutions are indeed the future. When the world will finally begin to accept the study of the paranormal and the extraterrestrial as normal, that is when religion and science may perhaps be united. It would be a shame to see a part of our future destroyed because a certain group of people in a certain time period didn't like religion. I support freedom of religion, and I don't like it when people simply have a problem because we complain peacefully.

Austin Tasato
Honolulu, HI 96826
Oct 25, 2013

Martha Maebori
Honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 25, 2013

Cindy Chi Man Lee
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 25, 2013

Barbara Wong
Honolulu, HI 96744
Oct 25, 2013

why not let the people? we voted once before something similar to this, why not again? one rep for a district doesn't cover all voices in his/her area.

Ramona Nunies
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 25, 2013

Sharon L. Silva
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 25, 2013

I am a sixteen year old high school student, and I believe that same-sex marriage infringes the freedom of speech for religious organizations who have and always will oppose to this for its violation of what the bible outlines to be a sin.

Tianzhen Nie
Honolulu, HI 96825
Oct 24, 2013

The Government should not make these decisions..the people should have s right to vote.

Merlita Evanoff
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 24, 2013

Xiao Hu

Dublin, CA 94568
Oct 24, 2013

michelle Kalliam
kihei, HI 96753
Oct 24, 2013

valerie holst
honolulu, HI 96821
Oct 24, 2013

Anita castillo
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 24, 2013

Darbi Akagi
EWA, HI 96706
Oct 24, 2013

Honorable Governor Abercrombie, I feel my right to vote on this controversial issue of legalizing same gender marriage in our State of Hawaii is being denied by this Special Session, specifically set to rush the passing of this bill into law. Please as a registered voter, let me vote on this issue!! Mahalo & Aloha

Cyndie Fernandez
Honolulu, HI 96815
Oct 24, 2013

Carol Meek
Kilauea, HI 96754
Oct 24, 2013

Ahtooanya
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Jane
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 24, 2013

Greg Wood
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 24, 2013

This bill needs to have the wording changed to lay out specific provisions or protections for any religious organization that wants to keep the same-sex marriage from occurring in their facilities, due to their belief and tenants of faith.

Teresa A Krahnert
Hilo, HI 96720

Oct 24, 2013

Mel Domingcil
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 24, 2013

Stanley Maebori
Honolulu, HI 86818
Oct 24, 2013

Nathan Ching
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 24, 2013

Not every young person believes that you are entitled to marriage just because you love someone-- Marriage is between a man and a woman.

Jennifer LeFevre
Keaau, HI 96749
Oct 24, 2013

Please preserve the integrity of Marriage between a husband and wife in Hawaii!

Greg LeFevre
Keaau, HI 96749
Oct 24, 2013

Brady Burgess
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 24, 2013

Please preserve the integrity of Marriage between a husband and wife in Hawaii!

Lisa LeFevre
Keaau, HI 96749
Oct 24, 2013

People should not be penalized for exercising their Constitutional right of freedom of religion. As written, this bill would force people to act contrary to their beliefs for fear of being sued or otherwise penalized. This should be a major concern for even non-religious people. Nor should the government try to rush legislation through that affects so many people. We have the right to know all the implications of this proposed legislation and to vote on it ourselves.

Jean Nodacker
Pahoa, HI 96778
Oct 24, 2013

Bill Hoffman
Kaneohe, HI 96744

Oct 24, 2013

Rachel Brigoli
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Amy Kashiwai
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 24, 2013

Deborah Rafael
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

"If you don't have anything nice to say, don't say anything at all."

Cynthia Connell
Haleiwa, HI 96712
Oct 24, 2013

Ramirez Tyler
Kauai, HI 96766
Oct 24, 2013

Bernadette Pleimann
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 24, 2013

Eric Wakabayashi
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 24, 2013

Bryson Pedro
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 24, 2013

Protect my religious freedom.

Roy Yamamoto
Pearl City, HI 96782
Oct 24, 2013

The people already voted!

Patrick and Lesa McCluskey
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 24, 2013

I oppose same sex marriage and believe in the traditional marriage between a man and woman. Protect our religious freedom.

Jacqueline Fuchigami
Keaau, HI 96749
Oct 24, 2013

Mary - Jo Gaspar
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740
Oct 24, 2013

Michael Weber
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 24, 2013

Namelelani Akiona
Waianae, HI 96749
Oct 24, 2013

There are not sufficient protections written in the bill for religious leaders, organizations, small businesses or individuals. Vote "No".

Angela Woods
Pahoa, HI 96778
Oct 24, 2013

Let the people vote.

Derek F Cabarloc
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 24, 2013

Carolee Fernandez
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 24, 2013

Pablo Vesperas
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 24, 2013

KAREN SAMIANO
LIHUE, HI 96766
Oct 24, 2013

Please support religious freedom.

Ruth Kongaika
Laie, HI 96762

Oct 24, 2013

Pesile Kai
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 24, 2013

Ruth Baltch
Mililani Town, HI 96789
Oct 24, 2013

Bree vellalos
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 24, 2013

Claudia Lee
Honolulu, HI 96821
Oct 24, 2013

Please Let Us Vote mahalo

Marni Renner
holualoa, HI 96725
Oct 24, 2013

stop now!

MCKAY ERNESTBURG
Ka'a'awa, HI 96730
Oct 24, 2013

Janice Kirkham
Honolulu, HI 96813
Oct 24, 2013

Jaime Kapu
Honolulu, HI 96823
Oct 24, 2013

Jessica Arruda
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 24, 2013

pat lorenzo
Wahiawa, HI 96786
Oct 24, 2013

We do not support same-sex marriage in Hawaii. Please hear us. Thank you for your service as a representative of the people.

tulifau esene
Wahiawa, HI 96786
Oct 24, 2013

At the least, please place this issue on the next voting ballot for the citizens of Hawai'i to be heard. "No" to same-sex marriage in Hawai'i. Thank you.

aolani esene
Wahiawa, HI 96786
Oct 24, 2013

I am against marriage bill and support only traditional marriage between one man and one woman.

Michael Tuttle
pukalani, HI 96768
Oct 24, 2013

Jaymie
Aiea, HI 96734
Oct 24, 2013

Benjamin Joseph Candari
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Please support the majority in keeping marriage between one man and one woman. We the people already voted on this issue. Please support our choices.

Lylia
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Rhonda Kahalewai
Hoolehua, HI 96729
Oct 24, 2013

Vil Pedro-Vesperas
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 24, 2013

DEBRA SOTO
Lawai, HI 96765
Oct 24, 2013

We have the right have Religious Freedom! This bill is against our religious rights.

Hiilei Vuta
Pahoa, HI 96778
Oct 24, 2013

Caleb X Cheng
Honolulu, HI 96813
Oct 24, 2013

Let us voice our concerns

Jennifer Inouye
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

George Kamakahi
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 24, 2013

Steven Young
honolulu, HI 96826
Oct 24, 2013

People should have the right to religious freedom. Don't restrict us from our religious beliefs. Let the people vote!

Jaime G
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 24, 2013

Benjamin Dean
Fairfield, CA 94534
Oct 24, 2013

Raihau young
honolulu, HI 96826
Oct 24, 2013

Let the people decide, constitutional amendment!

Jeff Wong
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 24, 2013

Wendy Volivar
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 24, 2013

Chuanlei Lu
Honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 24, 2013

HONGLI REN
Beijing, China
Oct 24, 2013

wen ho
honolulu, HI 96815
Oct 24, 2013

Let the people decide!

Dana Hensarling
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 24, 2013

I feel the voters already decided, but in lieu of a special session...put it to a vote again...by the people of Hawaii...let us decide! Mahalo!

Chantal A. Duarte
Waimea, HI 96796
Oct 24, 2013

Shannon Damo
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 24, 2013

All people are able to love whom they want. They are also given benefits when they are civilly united. One of the oldest laws of time is that marriage is between one man and one woman. Will a marriage certificate change how these people feel about each other? I think not, but the Governor's bill will change rights for mothers, people who believe that marriage should be between a man and a woman, teachers, and so many more people in society.

Trisha Sellesin
Waialua, HI 96791
Oct 24, 2013

to: our government and our governor. stop restricting our rights to our religious beliefs.

sonai nakano
kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 24, 2013

Nerissa
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 24, 2013

Kristin
Captain Cook, HI 96704
Oct 24, 2013

It is our governments role to ensure the rights of religious freedom.

Paul Garner
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 24, 2013

Let the people vote!

Sabrina Price
Hauula, HI 96717
Oct 24, 2013

I am opposed to this "special session"

Derrick Wong
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 24, 2013

Don't people affiliated with religious beliefs that believe should be between a man and a woman have rights too?

EMMALINE IHU
WAIMEA, KAUAI, HI 96796
Oct 24, 2013

G. Greene

G. Greene
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 24, 2013

Ross Akiona
Mountain View, HI 96771
Oct 24, 2013

joyce tabar
kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Please VOTE NO to same sex-mariage.

Shirley Tovey
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 24, 2013

Allen Kauhi
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 24, 2013

No to same sex marriage.

Christopher c Rothwell
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 24, 2013

Angela Kansou
Pearl City, HI 96782
Oct 24, 2013

James Matsuzaki
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 24, 2013

Laura K. K. Taua
Waianae, HI 96792
Oct 24, 2013

Alice Cheung
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 24, 2013

Dean young
honolulu, HI 96814
Oct 24, 2013

Monica Cook
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 24, 2013

Gloria Carlile
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Lovey Saludaes
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 24, 2013

De Silva Ohana
Lihue, HI 96766
Oct 24, 2013

Ma Zhiguo
beijing, China

Oct 24, 2013

return our right to democracy! let the people decide for the people. put it to vote (again).

alan kimura
honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 24, 2013

Maria Sheila Salud
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 24, 2013

xiaoxue cheng
Honolulu Hawaii hi, HI 96813
Oct 24, 2013

Please respect religious liberty. Let the people vote on marriage. This is not the responsibility of a temporary group of legislators. Thank you.

Michele LeMone
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 24, 2013

Brandon Tengan
Honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 24, 2013

Rachel Nihipali
Kekaha, HI 96752
Oct 24, 2013

I agree with our Constitution for the freedom of religion.

Milton Lee
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 24, 2013

Janelle Leong
Lawai, HI 96765
Oct 24, 2013

Mervin
Lawai, HI 96765
Oct 24, 2013

Amelia Galario
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 24, 2013

Johnathan Chin
Hawaii, HI 96706
Oct 24, 2013

Britney kalua
Waimanalo, HI 96795
Oct 24, 2013

Jordan Estioco
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 24, 2013

Democracy was granted by the people and for the people!

Dillon Ramos
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 24, 2013

kazumi edwards
kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 24, 2013

Same Sex Marriage Is not fair!!!!

Trey Uehara
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 24, 2013

Same sex marriage is not right!!!

Kainoa Alden
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 24, 2013

Qihui Fan
Honolulu, HI 96848
Oct 24, 2013

DM
Pahoa, HI 96778
Oct 24, 2013

You should vote against this because it is not very smart!!

Benjamin Moore
Honolulu, HI 96813
Oct 24, 2013

I think its wrong to have same sex marriage because it is not in the bible to say you can.

Aidan Koanui
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 24, 2013

Audrey Wang
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 24, 2013

Erica Neves
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 24, 2013

Harry McIntosh
Naalehu, HI 96772
Oct 24, 2013

Christina Foster
Ninole, HI 96773
Oct 24, 2013

Sandy
Hong Kong, Hong Kong
Oct 24, 2013

Lorraine Nip
Honolulu, HI 96825
Oct 24, 2013

America was originally created so people could have freedom of religion!! Forcing religions to do things they don't believe in is against the American Rights!!

Rachel Foster
Hilo, HI 96721
Oct 24, 2013

QIN JIA
honolulu, HI 96826
Oct 24, 2013

Julie Pascua
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 24, 2013

God loves us (the world) but hates the sin, anything apart from the Will of God is sin and marriage is between man and woman.

Oliver Tamayo
Pearl city, HI 96782
Oct 24, 2013

Michael Agcanas
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 24, 2013

The same sex marriage is by no means a real marriage recognized by the GOD!

Ning-Shou Xu
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 24, 2013

Please allow the people to vote on marriage! We the people should decide on such community-altering issues.
Mahalo, Emily Ching Wright

Emily Wright
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 24, 2013

Winnie Yiu
Honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 24, 2013

I'm not a resident but I feel it's wrong to pass this legislation. Because as one passes something like this it's like a domino effect.

Beverly jones
Franklin, AL 36444
Oct 24, 2013

John L Anderson
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 24, 2013

A Marriage should be between a Men and a Women Amen!

Donna Sabalburo
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 24, 2013

Gaoyuan Zhang
Honolulu, China
Oct 24, 2013

Kristina calicdan
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 24, 2013

Eva Maile Andrus-Price
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 24, 2013

Cynthia Bortfeld
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 24, 2013

Kara
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 24, 2013

Yihua Xie
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 24, 2013

Yazhi Huang Nie
Honolulu,, HI 96825
Oct 24, 2013

Kill this Bill. Let the people decide. It is our fundamental right to worship without fear of persecution. That is promised to all people in the US Constitution. Our fore fathers fought for this right and freedom of religion should be respected.

joyce castillo
waialua, HI 96791
Oct 24, 2013

Kristy Yip
Honolulu, HI 96813
Oct 24, 2013

Reka Bordas
Smethwick, United Kingdom
Oct 24, 2013

Istvan Bordas
Smethwick, United Kingdom
Oct 24, 2013

DENISE WONG
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 24, 2013

Sonia Walker-Aki
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Janice Xiao
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 24, 2013

Bing Fu
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 24, 2013

Leone M Saaga
Eagle Mountain, UT 84005
Oct 24, 2013

Linda Rocke
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 24, 2013

Adrienne Garcia
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 24, 2013

Esther Balderas
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Norbert Kitashima
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 24, 2013

Chantelle Witt
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Breanna Dano
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Tiffany Balangue
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 24, 2013

Shayne Guthrie
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Rochelle Guthrie
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Brock Staheli
Santa Clara, UT 84765
Oct 24, 2013

Vote for NO to SSM Kill the Governor's Bill in Special Session

Linda Chang
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 24, 2013

Kori Alimazo
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 24, 2013

Yes, Kill the Governor's Bill in Special Session.

Linda Chang-Shimauro
Honolulu, HI 96813
Oct 24, 2013

Kirk K. Ronolo
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 24, 2013

With so few benefitting from this special session, why isn't one being called for homelessness where 100% of our State is being affected.

Mark H. Felmet
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 24, 2013

Vernon Takata
Pearl City, HI 96782
Oct 24, 2013

Editha Nuesca
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 24, 2013

Roy Nuesca
Honolulu, HI 96819-2559
Oct 24, 2013

Diedra Ulii
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 24, 2013

please dont be on the wrong side of history - everything you do you'll be accountable when you stand before God - THE LIFE OF THE LAND IS PERPETUATED IN RIGHTEOUSNESS (NOT UNRIGHTEOUSNESS!!!)

Ronalyn Nuesca
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 24, 2013

Lisa Samtani
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 24, 2013

joan bagood
honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 24, 2013

Iris Wong
Honolulu, HI 96814
Oct 24, 2013

Aron Chock
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 24, 2013

The long term consequences of such a law impacting our children and citizens is horrific. The present view of this "civil rights?" law does not even concern itself with the future...even in the next year's educating children on the NEW model for what constitutes family life style...reorganizing history from the beginning of God's plan to man's enlightened plan causing confusion and chaos. If this bill for SSM passes the consequences will not only split our state and country but will bring division and loss of religious rights of the majority of our citizens. A few will take away the rights of the many. Freedom of Religion will be minimal. GOD HELP US.

Mary Jo McEnany
Waiialua, HI 96791
Oct 24, 2013

I don't want to lose the real family tree with a grandmother, grandfather, aunts and uncles. Where is justice for our younger generation depriving them to experience the joy of the love of mother, father, grandpa, grandma, uncle and aunts. The important cell of a community will be lost forever.

Luz Cabang
Honolulu, HI 96814
Oct 24, 2013

Cyril Wong

Honolulu, HI 96814
Oct 24, 2013

Kimberly Yamaoka
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 24, 2013

Kealoha Hirokawa
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Kathryn McLarn-Kyono
Lawai, HI 96765
Oct 24, 2013

Jingbo Chang
Honolulu, HI 96823
Oct 24, 2013

Owen Chock
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 24, 2013

Kellie Hong
Honolulu, HI 96813
Oct 24, 2013

Daniel A Parrish
Waiialua, HI 96791
Oct 24, 2013

Lorine Paden
Koloa, HI 96756
Oct 24, 2013

I strongly oppose the Same Sex Marriage Bill and ask that you vote No on this bill.

Mildred Kane
Oahu, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Bing li luo
Honolulu, HI 96826
Oct 24, 2013

Brenda Tai See
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 24, 2013

Leona Chock
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 24, 2013

shirley Judge
Honolulu, HI 96815
Oct 24, 2013

Alicia Osumi
Pearl city, HI 96782
Oct 24, 2013

Mildred Chargualaf
Kahului, HI 96733
Oct 24, 2013

Emi Osumi
Pearl city, HI 96782
Oct 24, 2013

I am against same-sex marriage. Those of you with children and grandchildren..do you really want them to be indoctrinated starting as such young ages about sex?! Look at those places that have become same-sex marriage states/countries and see how they have fared. Protect the innocence of our children! I remember us as children playing hopscotch, jacks, marbles etc. Protect the children! Let the people vote. Does this law unequivocally protect our churches and religious organizations and our individual religious freedom? I think not...too many loopholes and trapdoors.....kill the bill and let the people decide...not the government. This is too important an issue.

Regina Pascual
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 24, 2013

Stephanie Lloyd
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 24, 2013

if the bill passes, more uncontrollable problems and issues will emerge within our society, as you can see what is happening to Massachusetts.

Danna Chen
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 24, 2013

Marriage is between a man and women as God intended and invented

Fredric Sigler
Honolul, HI 96825
Oct 24, 2013

No same sex marriage in Hawaii .

Yoly Agsalud
Kapoleie, HI 96707
Oct 24, 2013

Ginger Marcellus
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 24, 2013

No same sex marriage in Hawaii.

Philip Huang
Honolulu, HI 96825
Oct 24, 2013

Yaru Wang
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 24, 2013

Gloria Santiago
Pearl City, HI 96782
Oct 24, 2013

Joshtin sadler
Pearl City, HI 96782
Oct 24, 2013

Mary Ann T. McMillen
Kekaha, HI 96752
Oct 24, 2013

Crystal Bethel
Kapaa, HI 96766
Oct 24, 2013

please vote no

cynthia a rutkiewicz
honolulu, HI 96826
Oct 24, 2013

Marriage between a man and a woman is how I was born and blessed to be raised up with a male father and female mother. Because of sin many were abused male & female. The devil has plague their thinking and have turned them to a love that is an abomination (not natural) and is trying to make it as though it is okay. I will keep praying that God will set them free from captivity of abuse, anger, bitter, confusion, deception and Jesus rescue them. They need to be set free. Holy Spirit you start operating and turn the hearts around for it's not by power nor by might but by your holy spirit in Jesus name!

Frances Kawelo
Waianae, HI 96792
Oct 24, 2013

Please do not pass this bill without seeking popular vote. This measure failed when last voted on. The religious exemption clause is inadequate to protect my religious freedom. Please do not pass this legislation.

David Georges
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 24, 2013

Let the people vote and decide on whether we want same sex marriages in the state of Hawai'i.

David Murata
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 24, 2013

Kamuela Kimokeo
Ewa beach, HI 96706
Oct 24, 2013

I support "TRADITIONAL MARRIAGES" Please do not take away my right to say NO

Jo-Ann L Kahawai
Hanapepe, HI 96716
Oct 24, 2013

Joe Wong
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 24, 2013

One man and one woman!

Minxian Du
Honolulu, HI 96826
Oct 24, 2013

Kendrick Tom
Pearl City, HI 96782
Oct 24, 2013

Gov Abercrombie, I voted for you..but this is underhanded and denies the people their right to decide on this major issue. If you go through with this you will lose my confidence.

Mark Ryales
kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 24, 2013

Please give careful consideration to what you are doing. Discuss this with people and see that we need to bring this before the state, not assume that this decision is best handled within a short amount of time. Will be praying as you make your decision.

Robert Uyeda
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 24, 2013

Religious freedom cannot be governed

Diane Halas
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Evalani Sproat
Haiku, HI 96708
Oct 24, 2013

I don't agree that such an important bill should be dealt with in a Special Session. Do it justly and let the people be heard and not dictated or misled.

Delro Rosco
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 24, 2013

I oppose to this bill of same sex marriage. A marriage is ONLY between a man and a woman as we were put on this earth for. This is very important that we please kindly stop the Governor's Bill. I thank you and God bless.

Beatrice J Santiago
Kekaha, HI 96752
Oct 24, 2013

Paul Cook
Greenville, SC 29605
Oct 24, 2013

Do not let a small group of good people make a bad decision, allow the people to have a choice.

Joshua Forloine
Mililani, HI 96789

Oct 24, 2013

We had already voted on this issue and the people of Hawaii over-overwhelmingly voted on favor of marriage as being between a man and a woman. Why are you not listening to us? What has changed? Who or what has influenced you to disregard what the people of Hawaii have already decided on. We need to seriously look at new representatives who really have the interests of people and not a select minority that happens to have a squeaky wheel.

Louis Prescott
Hauula, HI 96717-9506
Oct 24, 2013

I am opposed to same sex marriage. Marriage should remain defined as a union between a man and a woman!!

Mildred F. Wong
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 24, 2013

Lauravelle Lewis
Kamuela, HI 96743
Oct 24, 2013

Lets NOT jeopardise what few "Family " values we have left in this country by re-defining relationships.

Garret Santos
Princeville, HI 96722
Oct 24, 2013

Boyd Punua
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 24, 2013

Tina Punua
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 24, 2013

Not in support of current bill, I oppose same sex marriage in Hawaii and believe in traditional marriage between a husband and wife and would like religious freedoms

Harolyn Wolfgramm
Waimanalo, HI 96795
Oct 24, 2013

Lorna wong
Kaneohe, HI 96734
Oct 24, 2013

Now that you understand our concern, and if you still insist in moving forward with your agenda, then you are not representing me.

Jackie Shen
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 24, 2013

Lynette Mun
Honolulu, HI 96921
Oct 24, 2013

I support traditional marriage and the right to exercise my religious beliefs. Please do not take that away from the people of Hawai'i.

Wendy Ohashi
Keaau, HI 96749
Oct 24, 2013

Jodi Presbitero
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Please withdraw and Same Sex Marriage Bill. Hawaii does not need to change our value system and our rights to maintain our religious beliefs.

Stevette Santiago
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

I don't want this Special Session. Give the People of Hawaii the voice back.

Priscilla Wong
Honolulu, HI 96814
Oct 24, 2013

Tracy
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 24, 2013

Newton Miller
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 24, 2013

Stop the government from restricting our churches and religious organizations the right to freely exercise their beliefs.

Lorin Carmichael
Keaau, HI 96749

Oct 24, 2013

Support freedom and families!

Tim Holley
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

I support traditional marriage (one MAN and one WOMAN). We need to prepare the road for the future of our CHILDREN and lead them in the right direction to the way our Lord Jesus Christ has created with Adam and Eve. Amen.

Roberta Ku`ulei Cagasan
Kahului, HI 96732-1420
Oct 24, 2013

Kimberly Hanohano
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Kalei Miyahana
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 24, 2013

I support traditional marriage and the right to exercise my religious belief!

June Munoz
Kapa'a, HI 96746
Oct 24, 2013

Stop the government from restricting our churches and religious organizations the right to freely exercise their beliefs.

Ronald Saoit
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 24, 2013

Aileen Galario-Chin
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 24, 2013

Jonathan Pak
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 24, 2013

Stephen Goodspeed
Kailua-Kona, HI 96700
Oct 24, 2013

Erin Gayer
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 24, 2013

Let the people decide!

Margaret A Nozawa
Kapolei, HI 96707-1206
Oct 24, 2013

Angie Kaonohi
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Thomson Lo
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 24, 2013

Clive Cowell
Honolulu, HI 96722
Oct 24, 2013

I am signing this petition to add my voice that marriage should be between a man and a woman. However, if they choose to be in a relationship I have no objections. I don't want their union to infringe on my rights to change the laws and to teach my children something I do not believe in.

Jayne Kealoha-Dacuycuy
Hauula, HI 96717
Oct 24, 2013

Gaylen T. Yoshida
Honolulu, HI 96821
Oct 24, 2013

Beverly Hamamoto
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 24, 2013

I favor TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE....I a AGAINST same sex marriage!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Respect my religious freedom:)

gary kuikahi
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 24, 2013

Gail Kamalani
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Devin Moncur
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 24, 2013

BELLA SARMIENTO
AIEA, HI 96701
Oct 24, 2013

Ben Hung
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 24, 2013

Kerry Taylor
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 24, 2013

Stephanie McAndrew
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 24, 2013

Barbara McDaniels
Koloa, HI 96756
Oct 24, 2013

Please don't change the definition of marriage as I have grown up and practice to believe. This is not about inequality...homosexuals were given legal rights by having civil unions. I feel it is an inequality to tell me I need to accept something that my beliefs don't support.

Amber
Kalaheo, HI 96741
Oct 24, 2013

Vicky Pang
Honolulu, HI 96814
Oct 24, 2013

Teodoro C Adres Jr
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 24, 2013

Elijah Frost
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Laurie Palenske
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Sara Camfield
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 24, 2013

Kai daliva
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 24, 2013

Cory Young
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 24, 2013

Wally Thiim
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 24, 2013

Sandra Inayoshi
Pearl City, HI 96782
Oct 24, 2013

mark jahnke
waimanalo, HI 96795
Oct 24, 2013

Michele Soto
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 24, 2013

Vote NO!

Fred Tanaka
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 24, 2013

Hailey Mozo
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 24, 2013

Iris T. Mudgett
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 24, 2013

Let the people of Hawaii be heard on this important subject that will change the shape of our communities!

Richard Ho
Kapa'a, HI 96746
Oct 24, 2013

Pomaikai Kekaula
Kamuela, HI 96743
Oct 24, 2013

Stop the government from restricting our churches and religious organizations the right to freely exercise our beliefs.

Jesse Layaoen
Hawaii, HI 96754
Oct 24, 2013

Angie Staheli
Santa Clara, UT 84765
Oct 24, 2013

Alana Peralta
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 24, 2013

Heather Jackson
Lehi, UT 84043
Oct 24, 2013

Ana Louise
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 24, 2013

Leon K Dodson
Honolulu, HI 96826
Oct 24, 2013

Please go to catholichawaii.org to see what is on the books in other states. The general public doesn't understand what is at stake for our children.

cherie lashin
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 24, 2013

Lori Sigler
Honolulu, HI 96825
Oct 24, 2013

I think the people should have the choice and not the legislators.j

Martin Gomes
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 24, 2013

Clifford Juarez
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 24, 2013

Justin Nozawa
Kaaawa, HI 96730
Oct 24, 2013

Sheri Nozawa
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 24, 2013

Let the people decide.

Traci
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 24, 2013

Stop this special session! We deserve to be heard. This Bill will forever infringe on our religious and parental freedoms and rights!

Sheri Dano
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

What happened between separation between Church and State?

Gary Smith
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 24, 2013

Leonard Mukai
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 24, 2013

Keenan Zerkel
Anchorage, AK 99502
Oct 24, 2013

Gustave Malterre
Kapolei, HI 86707-1323
Oct 24, 2013

Robin metcalf
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 24, 2013

Bill Callahan
Wylie, TX 75098
Oct 24, 2013

Mariel Mohler
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

all in

Daniel
Honolulu, HI 96814
Oct 24, 2013

I believe that marriage is between a man and a woman.

Donnis Cazimero
Pearl city, HI 96782
Oct 24, 2013

Grace Wong
Honolulu, HI 96814
Oct 24, 2013

Lleander Jung
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 24, 2013

Do not rush to pass this bill through. Let the people of Hawaii vote on this important issue that will have great impact on not just same sex couples, but also to religious and non-profit orgs, to businesses that do not share the same values, to school curriculum you may not agree with, and the way the bill is written the child from a SSM may have native Hawaiian rights such as attending Kamehameha school even when the only one with Haw'n blood is one parent.

J. Nancy Faustino
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 24, 2013

i believe, marriage is between 1 man and 1 woman a

William
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 24, 2013

I believe that marriage is only between man and woman. I stand against a same sex marriage. I want to protect God's covernant.

Shinobu Carmichael

Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 24, 2013

Emaleti Mokofisi
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Lorin Evan Carmichael
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 24, 2013

Let the people vote! Respectfully and strongly disagree with Governor Neil Abercrombie's Bill trying to legalize same-sex marriage.

Selina Lau
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 24, 2013

Let the people vote!

Andrew Tong
Honolulu, HI 96837
Oct 24, 2013

Ewa Jachimczyk
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Janell Beattie
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 24, 2013

Maluhia Miller
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 24, 2013

Doreen Sokolowski
Waianae, HI 96792
Oct 24, 2013

Jacie Atabay
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 24, 2013

Kyle Morrison
Lawai, HI 96765
Oct 24, 2013

JingXie
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 24, 2013

Terri Yoshinaga
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 24, 2013

Let the people vote!! After all " we are the people of Hawaii"

Natasha Flores
keaaau, HI 96778
Oct 24, 2013

Claudia Hart
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 24, 2013

I think that if your faith or morals do not agree with same sex marriage you should be able to decline participation in this activity.

Roberta Swanstrom
Eatonville, WA 98328
Oct 24, 2013

Ping Zhong
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 24, 2013

Myra Tiave-Faatea
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 24, 2013

JoAnn Tanoue
PEARL CITY, HI 96782
Oct 24, 2013

Calvin Enoki
Hilo, HI 96729
Oct 24, 2013

Please don't take away our religious freedoms.

Janae Alexander
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Wilfred Sibayton
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 24, 2013

cheryl
hilo, HI 96720
Oct 24, 2013

It seems that the people in office are choosing only to promote the rights of some at the cost of the majority.

Kau'i'onu'alalo Cho
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

wayne I. Tanaka
Lihue, HI 96766
Oct 24, 2013

Brandelyn Hall
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 24, 2013

Frances Finau
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 24, 2013

Saia Finau
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 24, 2013

Protect OUR rights!!! We say, NO!!!

SHERILYN KANG
HILO, HI 96720
Oct 24, 2013

MELANIE
kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

I am for the right to exercise my religious beliefs and stand on God's foundation of truth and what is right.

Lorena Lundquist
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 24, 2013

For traditional marriage and protection of our first ammendment rights.

Lois J Young
WAHIAWA, HI 96786
Oct 24, 2013

I am in support of religious liberty in Hawai'i.

Patricia J Carmichael
Keaau, HI 96749
Oct 24, 2013

Tawna chun
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Christina Seipp
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 24, 2013

SAVE TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE!!!

Vivian Lin
Honolulu, HI 96825
Oct 24, 2013

Please say NO to the same sexmarriage! Please save the future for our children.

Sujuan Situ
Honolulu, HI 96825
Oct 24, 2013

Let the people vote

ANGELA QUIROZ
hilo, HI 96720
Oct 24, 2013

Shawn Kyono
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 24, 2013

Danielle Javier-Hodge
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 24, 2013

todd poliahu
kaneohe, HI 96744

Oct 24, 2013

corie poliahu
kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Respectfully and strongly disagree with Governor Neil Abercrombie's Bill trying to legalize same-sex marriage.

Jinghai Yang
Honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 24, 2013

Keriyah Campbell
Keaau, HI 96749
Oct 24, 2013

Lorianne Fukui-Stoos
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 24, 2013

Wendy Reid
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 24, 2013

Mitchell Ho
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 24, 2013

Marriage is an institution before God joining a man and a women. Any union between same sex individuals is a crime agains nature and a sin against God.

Robert Timm Jr
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Stop the special session. This deserves a full vetting with an appropriate timeline and full testimonials.

Jaime McGuire
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 24, 2013

Chao Zheng
Honolulu, HI 96825
Oct 24, 2013

Rebecca Akiona
Mt. View, HI 96771
Oct 24, 2013

Stella Chang
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 24, 2013

Candice A. Cummings
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 24, 2013

Stop the government from restricting our churches and religious organizations the right to freely exercise their beliefs

Mary Scarborough
Pearl City, HI 96782
Oct 24, 2013

Julie e arias
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 24, 2013

Blake Taira
Honolulu, HI 96821
Oct 24, 2013

Stop the government from restricting our churches and religious organizations the right to freely exercise their beliefs.

Zendo Heshiki
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Gail Jordan
Wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 24, 2013

Debonair Akau
Koloa, HI 96756
Oct 24, 2013

Crystal Goo
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 24, 2013

Bryce Tano
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Melvin Ishikawa
Mililani, HI 96789

Oct 24, 2013

Makee Tano
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

This bill practically goes against the First Amendment, even though they're trying to use part of the First Amendment. They can't change anything relating to religion which marriage is part of.

Michael
Honolulu, HI 96813
Oct 24, 2013

I vote NO!

Amanda Rand
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 24, 2013

Calvin Kochi
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 24, 2013

Irene Tanioka
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 24, 2013

Traci Kaopua
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Leo Ing
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 24, 2013

Karli
Honolulu, HI 96814
Oct 24, 2013

I am against a special session. If you have one make it count for the classrooms that don't have A/C. What, 4-5 year problem now?

Lolita P Vidaurri
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 24, 2013

Samlynn Moore
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 24, 2013

Supporter of religious liberty in Hawaii

Eugenia L. Kapapa
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 24, 2013

Lovey Young
Koloa, HI 96765
Oct 24, 2013

Please allow the people to decide.

Gary Hockett
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 24, 2013

Emiko Baker
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 24, 2013

let the people decide.

winnie chan
honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 24, 2013

Allow the people to decide. Put it to a vote ...so all of Hawaii can voice their opinion

Barry Jay
Honolulu, HI 96821
Oct 24, 2013

Roxanne Kimokeo
Ewa beach, HI 96706
Oct 24, 2013

Eloise Tyau
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 24, 2013

Mike McGuire
Ewa beach, HI 96706
Oct 24, 2013

Michael Carlton
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 24, 2013

Please stop the government from restricting our churches and religious organizations the right to freely exercise their beliefs

Randy Chinen
Kekaha, HI 96752
Oct 23, 2013

Let the people decide!

Nicole
Naalehu, HI 96772
Oct 23, 2013

The people of Hawaii have already defined marriage as being between a man and a woman back in 1998...has the governor forgotten who his employer is?

Karen Hockett
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 23, 2013

Marriage should be between one man and one woman.

Mason Savage
Honolulu, HI 96821
Oct 23, 2013

Veronica A. Wright
Hauula, HI 96717
Oct 23, 2013

Yvette Carlton
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 23, 2013

Florita Escario
Ewa beach, HI 96706
Oct 23, 2013

Eleanor Doi
Lihue, HI 96766
Oct 23, 2013

Judy T
Pearl City, HI 96782
Oct 23, 2013

kathleen Sakamoto
Kamuela, HI 96743

Oct 23, 2013

Mia Lesseos
Kurtistown, HI 96760
Oct 23, 2013

If the legislators want to be fair and do what is right, they should let the people decide. Kill the Governor's bill. Cancel the special session.

Gary and Amy Sugawa
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 23, 2013

Kailani Fano
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 23, 2013

Betty Karratti
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 23, 2013

I support only traditional marriage between a woman and a man.

Allyson Savage
Honolulu, HI 96821
Oct 23, 2013

Cory Young
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 23, 2013

Stop the government from restricting our churches and religious organizations the right to freely exercise their beliefs.

Derek Peterson
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 23, 2013

The people of Hawaii should have an opportunity to vote on this most important issue. It should not be RUSHED through in a Special Session!

Clara Ogata
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 23, 2013

Rene P. Akimoto
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 23, 2013

i thought this was america, not forced by the government

ralph chun
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 23, 2013

sally Wong
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 23, 2013

Arsenio D Dolor
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 23, 2013

Debi Gatrell
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 23, 2013

Ashlyn Crawford
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 23, 2013

Belinda Dolor
Kapaa, HI 96756
Oct 23, 2013

Let the people vote!

Raymond Siu
Honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 23, 2013

Keep our religious beliefs sacred!! Stop trying to change what we live by!!!! We don't hate gay people...we just don't sustain the life style.

Joseph Fano
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 23, 2013

Robert Bird
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 23, 2013

Shirley Bird
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 23, 2013

We must stop this from passing for the sake of our islands, family and children.

Deborah Lau
Honolulu, HI 96813
Oct 23, 2013

My family does not agree with this new bill and want our religious beliefs to be protected.

Jerry Tefan
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 23, 2013

I strongly oppose this bill.

Celeste Tefan
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 23, 2013

Nicole
Keaau, HI 96749
Oct 23, 2013

I support religious liberty and marriage defined as between one woman and one man.

Patricia Oellien
Kaaawa, HI 96730
Oct 23, 2013

Naomi Nakasone
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 23, 2013

Dawn Pasikala
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 23, 2013

One Man and One Woman---God's Way

Glenn K. Solem
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 23, 2013

Teri Chun
hilo, HI 96720
Oct 23, 2013

James Matabishop
Hilo, HI 96720

Oct 23, 2013

Richard Au
Honolulu, HI 96825
Oct 23, 2013

Let The People Vote Please...Thank You

Roxanne Gouveia Torres
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 23, 2013

Jessilyn Ota
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 23, 2013

Walter H Kawaiaea Jr
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 23, 2013

Marlene Lee
Honolulu, HI 96814
Oct 23, 2013

Totally against same sex marriage, we already voted against it before, Morally Wrong, I say NO...

Russell C.K. Haluapo
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 23, 2013

Lei Kia
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 23, 2013

Mimi Suchinroj
Honolulu, HI 96814
Oct 23, 2013

Pastor Tom Iannucci
Lawai, HI 96765
Oct 23, 2013

Michael Gameng
Ewa beach, HI 96706
Oct 23, 2013

Kainoa Gameng
Ewa beach, HI 96706
Oct 23, 2013

Khrysten Gameng
Ewa beach, HI 96706
Oct 23, 2013

DarlaDevera
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 23, 2013

James Lorenzo
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 23, 2013

EdoviaLazaro
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 23, 2013

Gregory A Correa
Wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 23, 2013

Most People for same sex marriage have been victims of child molestation so they have a warped view on marriage. They need to know same sex is not normal or healthy. The parts do not fit together that way for a reason.

Lorraine Apana
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 23, 2013

Tala'ofa Mataele
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 23, 2013

Susi Mataele
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 23, 2013

Churches should not be forced to hold this sinful act in their facility. If there is a church that allows it then it should be their choice to do so it should not be forced.

Janet Abreu
Koloa, HI 96756
Oct 23, 2013

Aiveni Mataele
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 23, 2013

Susan Cheng
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 23, 2013

please protect our religious freedom and traditional marriage in Hawaii for our children. God bless America.

Irene Ming
Honolulu, HI 96826
Oct 23, 2013

Else Endecott
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 23, 2013

I am against anything that abridge our spiritual belief in the Holy Bible. Same-sex marriage is an abomination to God!

Wyman Au
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 23, 2013

Say No to same sex marriage, unions Etc. compromise comes with a price, our moral values are not based on wisdom of man but of God. Lets seek His wisdom instead of our own.

Paul Tobosa
Pearl city, HI 96782
Oct 23, 2013

Alan Kumalae
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 23, 2013

Please for the Love Of God and people , dont allow this sin to harm the souls of people

edwin nakakura
kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 23, 2013

Kill the Governor's Bill in Special Session please!

Kent Higa
Hilo, HI 96721
Oct 23, 2013

Edwin Bruno
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 23, 2013

No to same sex marriage---many reasons.

anson rego
waianae, HI 96792
Oct 23, 2013

Please keep marriage between a male and female.

Julie Ohara
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 23, 2013

I say no to same sex marriage.

Dionne Nakamura
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 23, 2013

Didn't we already vote on this issue years ago? No same sex marriages? It goes against nature also and will restrict our churches and religious organizations the freedom to practice their beliefs.

Andrea Decker
Mountain View, HI 96771-0264
Oct 23, 2013

PATTY CHONG
KAPAA, HI 96746
Oct 23, 2013

Bruce
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 23, 2013

Chiu Wang Yeung
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 23, 2013

Ed Terui
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 23, 2013

No to same sex !! Marriage is between a man and a woman, period.

Cielito
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 23, 2013

Mercivel Bsutista
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 23, 2013

Danielle
honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 23, 2013

Mahalo

Haunani
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 23, 2013

Pauline Kuhia
Wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 23, 2013

Please stop government from restricting our churches and religious organizations the right to freely exercise their beliefs.

Valerie Roland
Koloa, HI 96756
Oct 23, 2013

Byron Dizon
Lihue, HI 96766
Oct 23, 2013

Jerry Recamara
WAILUKU, HI 96793
Oct 23, 2013

Natalie Fitzgerald
Wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 23, 2013

Shane Tanioka
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 23, 2013

Raymond K. Fujii
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 23, 2013

David Chun
Honolulu, HI 96826
Oct 23, 2013

I no longer live in Hawaii because of civil unions. I am sorry to say I will not recommend visits to the state to my friends, family and acquaintances because of it. I will only return to the state one more time because I have to. Hawaii has lost so much of it's Aloha and will lose more with same sex marriage. Sorry to say, same sex marriage will be the tipping point for many not to visit the state or return. I do not believe I am alone.

Beverly Larranaga
Colorado Springs, CO 80919
Oct 23, 2013

Shirley Zhuang
Honolulu, HI 96813
Oct 23, 2013

Nohealani Daliva
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 23, 2013

Philander and Juanita Aganus
Kamuela, HI 96743
Oct 23, 2013

Let the people of Hawaii decide on Marriage.

Teresa A. Bryan
Honolulu, HI 96813
Oct 23, 2013

Rosa
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 23, 2013

Maria
Pearl City, HI 96782
Oct 23, 2013

I am concerned with the infringement on my First Amendment rights if this bill is passed, and I have extreme concern in re-defining a God-ordained institution, which has stood since the beginning of time.

Mike Ward
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 23, 2013

This is in support of religious liberty.

Linda Nishigaya
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 23, 2013

Jon L. Koki
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 23, 2013

Lenny Farm
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 23, 2013

Vanessa Perez
Honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 23, 2013

I do not support the Special Session on Gay Marriage. It is against my religious beliefs on marriage

Puanani Soong
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 23, 2013

Kathleen Mendenhall
Salt Lake City, UT 84121
Oct 23, 2013

I strongly support Religious Liberty in Hawaii.

GUY KAPELIELA
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 23, 2013

Blaine
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 23, 2013

Isaiah 3:9 "The shew if their countenance doth witness against them; and they declare their sin as Sodom, they hide it not. Woe unto their soul! for they have rewarded evil unto themselves. " KJV

Marie Pico
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 23, 2013

Lyle McMillan
Pearl City, HI 96782
Oct 23, 2013

If same sex marriages were natural, the human race would cease to exist. I don't hate the people, I just don't agree with what they believe they're doing is right.

Michael Alesna
Aiea, HI 96701

Oct 23, 2013

Candace
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 23, 2013

The bill pertains to people, let the people of Hawaii decide and vote on this bill.

Laura Dizon-Vegas
Lawai, HI 96765
Oct 23, 2013

I am in support for traditional marriage, and please kill the Governor's bill in favor of same sex marriage.

Aniana Diane Pursell
Lihue, HI 96766
Oct 23, 2013

I support the democratic process of having the people decide on Same Gender Marriage.

Mike Kai
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 23, 2013

Preserve Marriage between one man and one woman only.

Brian K F Chang
HONOLULU, HI 96816
Oct 23, 2013

Lolita Arnold
wahiawa Hi., HI 96786
Oct 23, 2013

EDSON Y S LEE
AIEA, HI 96701
Oct 23, 2013

Christine M. Kilborn
Koloa, HI 96756
Oct 23, 2013

Kell Tanabe
Kihei, HI 96753
Oct 23, 2013

We cannot have this in our state!!! God loves His people but hates the sin.

cynthia rabina-houck
Pearl City, HI 96782
Oct 23, 2013

Lin
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 23, 2013

Please leave the decision of whether or not to legalize same sex marriage to the people of Hawaii. Please let the people decide. Mahalo.

Leslie Toyozaki
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 23, 2013

Pearl Soong
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 23, 2013

We the people of the State of Hawaii have the right to vote on the issue of same sex marriage, not the governor and congress of Hawaii. Please listen to the people, this is why we elect our representatives, Democrats or Republicans, we the citizens of the State of Hawaii. Thank you.

Gregg & Coreen Nelson
Naalehu, HI 96772
Oct 23, 2013

Leni Tanabe
Kihei, HI 96753
Oct 23, 2013

William Herrera
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 23, 2013

Please stop this bill!! It's simply unfair.

Katherine A. Jensen
Kaneohe, WA 96744
Oct 23, 2013

Kathy Neizmen
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 23, 2013

Michele Okimura
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 23, 2013

Shunxing Jiao
Honolulu, HI 96826
Oct 23, 2013

Grace Chun
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 23, 2013

"We the people", are voicing our choice for traditional marriage and freedom of speech. It is time for our legislators to listen!!!

Vincent Beazie
Waianae, HI 96792
Oct 23, 2013

Olevia Ifopo
honolulu, HI 96826
Oct 23, 2013

Kosta Naum
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 23, 2013

Laauli Ifopo
Honolulu, HI 96826
Oct 23, 2013

Caryn Lau
Honolulu, HI 96825
Oct 23, 2013

Marissa Teraoka
Pearl City, HI 96782
Oct 23, 2013

Victoria Mottteler
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 23, 2013

Sangato Letisi
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 23, 2013

Justina Cruz
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 23, 2013

Crystal Castillo
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 23, 2013

This special session is truly a personal selfish interest of this governor with his little friends. First, he asked for civil union, he got it. Now, his friends want same sex marriage, and threatened us with legislature's decision to be ok with the majority of Hawaii's population. Please, support the majority of Hawaii and "STOP" this Loser from invading our Families and values. Mahalo, Iameli

Iameli I. Kaio
Honolulu, HI 96813
Oct 23, 2013

We have the right to preserve the sanctity of our beliefs and places of worship. Must we violate one to afford another?

Joni Tanuvasa-Letisi
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 23, 2013

Religious freedom is guaranteed by our Constitution. "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances." You have no right to restrict our religious beliefs.

Kuulei Wilton
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 23, 2013

Marla Spencer
Hoolehua, HI 96729
Oct 23, 2013

save our traditional marriage!

Patricia Mau
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 23, 2013

Harry Quemado
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 23, 2013

This is simply unconstitutional.

Dalys Tapusoa
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 23, 2013

Cory Quemado
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 23, 2013

Please listen to the voters in the State of Hawaii, as we have unanimously voted against this previously.

Emily Needham
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 23, 2013

Pam
Wahiawa, HI 96786
Oct 23, 2013

Beverly Mau
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 23, 2013

We cannot loose our religious freedom!

Cheryl Kauwe
Kailua-kona, HI 96740
Oct 23, 2013

Amante Galario
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 23, 2013

Jan Tetsutani
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 23, 2013

I am in favor of Traditional Marriage NOT same sex marriage

Paul Kaneshiro
Pukalani, HI 96768
Oct 23, 2013

Calee Leong
EWA BEACH, HI 96706
Oct 23, 2013

Please listen to the voters in the State of Hawaii, as we have unanimously voted against this previously.

Curtis H Nishiyama
Honolulu, HI 96821
Oct 23, 2013

Jane Jin
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 23, 2013

Hua He
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 23, 2013

Li Chung Ming
Honolulu, HI 96826
Oct 23, 2013

let the people vote!

Jeff Ng
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 23, 2013

Leatha McConnell
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 23, 2013

lourdes tupper
ewa beach, HI 96706
Oct 23, 2013

Thomas
Wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 23, 2013

Joshua Burton
Kekaha, HI 96752
Oct 23, 2013

Please stop this bill from passing, it is hurting more than our religious freedom, it is also hurting our families!!!

Daryl Goo
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 23, 2013

Mike
Waimanalo, HI 96795
Oct 23, 2013

LaVanda Salas
Papaikou, HI 96781
Oct 23, 2013

Ken Arima
Honolulu, HI 96813
Oct 23, 2013

Robert N. Uyefa
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 23, 2013

VOTE NO! To same sex marriage. Defend the 1st Amendment of the US Constitution and the State of Hawaii ammendment in 1998 which the people gave the power to the Legislature to define marriage as one man and one woman, nothing else! Or let the people decide

Fentn S G Lee
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 23, 2013

Allan Talbert
Waianae, HI 96792-4929
Oct 23, 2013

Let the people decide.

Daryl
Waimanalo, HI 96795
Oct 23, 2013

Preston Lingaton
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 23, 2013

Miki
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 23, 2013

Laura Lei Kekauoha
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 23, 2013

Sherri Shimamoto
Kapolei, HI 96707

Oct 23, 2013

James Texeira
Kailua Kona, HI 96745
Oct 23, 2013

Support traditional marriage (one man and one woman) only. Let the people vote.

Sandra
Honolulu, HI 96813
Oct 23, 2013

Nathan Tomioka
Kalaheo, HI 96741
Oct 23, 2013

Charlene Han
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 23, 2013

Anna Marie Morikone
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 23, 2013

Mike Krzywonski
Haleiwa, HI 96712
Oct 23, 2013

Dolores a Bledsoe
Honolulu, HI 96815
Oct 23, 2013

The government needs all the help they can get excluding religion from school is the biggest mistake its like saying you don't believe in the constitution anymore. Its like saying this country is not free anymore. "IN GOD WE TRUST." Put prayers back in schools and the Pledge allegiance. The government is screwed up why screw with the peoples freedom of rights.

Barbara Thompson
Brigham City, UT 84302
Oct 23, 2013

Jeffrey Dunster
honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 23, 2013

Liang Wang
Honolulu, HI 96826
Oct 23, 2013

Lupe Piena
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 23, 2013

Tiare Vainerere
Hauula, HI 96717
Oct 23, 2013

support religion freedom

Zheng Lan
Honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 23, 2013

Ken Reyes
Honolulu, HI 96815
Oct 23, 2013

Ye Jin
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 23, 2013

Lynelle Noda
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 23, 2013

Let people vote

Raymond Carpenter
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 23, 2013

I believe in The Traditional Marriage.

Kerri Ambrosio
Kamuela, HI 96743
Oct 23, 2013

Mei Pang
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 23, 2013

Sal Yaris
Pukalani, HI 96768
Oct 23, 2013

Joseph Bybee
Kailua Kona, HI 96740

Oct 23, 2013

Fauoro Solomone
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 23, 2013

Please stop the Governor's Bill in Special Session!

Joan Corrigan
ewa beach, HI 96706
Oct 23, 2013

kele sunia
honolulu, HI 96826
Oct 23, 2013

Carolyn Villamor
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 23, 2013

Hannah Wong
Honolulu, HI 96826
Oct 23, 2013

Ben Fontillas
KANEEOHE, HI 96744
Oct 23, 2013

Please protect our religious liberties!

Deb
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 23, 2013

Yihong Wu
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 23, 2013

Wing Kaida
Honolulu, HI 96821
Oct 23, 2013

I stand for marriage as between one man and one woman and let the people decide.

Francis Chang
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 23, 2013

Jacky Cheung
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 23, 2013

Letitia Kyono
Lawai, HI 96765
Oct 23, 2013

The people of Hawaii voted in 1998, why are we wasting money for a special legislation?

Merton D. Davalos
Lihue, HI 96766
Oct 23, 2013

Pita Tanuvasa
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 23, 2013

Jerry Young
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 23, 2013

Support traditional marriage (one man and one woman)only

Benny Fan
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 23, 2013

Luciile J Meek
Pepeekeo, HI 96783
Oct 23, 2013

The rights of another must not bind the hands of the other.

Scott Hallmark
Ewa Beach, HI 96707
Oct 23, 2013

Keri Kiesling
Lahaina, HI 96761
Oct 23, 2013

Rev. Tinpo Lai
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 23, 2013

Nicholas Lam
Aiea, HI 96701

Oct 23, 2013

not agreed with same-sex marriage

TRACY LIANG
HONOLULU, HI 96814
Oct 23, 2013

Teri Cheung
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 23, 2013

Kelci Wandell
Kihei, HI 96753
Oct 23, 2013

This bill is unconstitutional! Our country was built upon principles set forth by our founding fathers. A house divided against itself cannot stand. I support traditional marriage as being defined between a man and a woman. As a parent, I also worry about how it will impact the curriculum in the schools, teaching "education," like how to have safe homosexual sex to our children! Let the people decide!

Ramona Okimoto
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 23, 2013

Joni Yeung
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 23, 2013

Edith Nalani Flinn
Waianae, HI 96792
Oct 23, 2013

Kyle Nitahara
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 23, 2013

Stop the government from restricting our churches and religious organizations the right to freely exercise their beliefs.

Pui Ching Lin
Honolulu, HI 96813
Oct 23, 2013

Todd Hairgrove
Honolulu, HI 96830
Oct 23, 2013

Ellen White
Militant, HI 96789
Oct 23, 2013

Eveline Wunder
Pukalani, HI 96768
Oct 23, 2013

Please exempt religious organizations from participating in same-sex marriages in anyway, both facilities and clergy. Please ensure the language in the bill is clear.

Gregory D. Burton
Honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 23, 2013

Denise Burnett
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 23, 2013

Let the people vote.

Vera Tong
Honolulu, HI 96814
Oct 23, 2013

Laurie Cooper
Lihue, HI 96766
Oct 23, 2013

Wayne Chi
Honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 23, 2013

Brant Matsuda
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 23, 2013

Let the people vote as in 1998!

Donald k Okami sr
LIHUE, HI 96766
Oct 23, 2013

Let the people vote. No special session on Govenor's bill.

Laurie Wong
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 23, 2013

Brendan Porick
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 23, 2013

Jed Young
LIHUE, HI 96766
Oct 23, 2013

Gina hind
Honolulu, HI 96926
Oct 23, 2013

Joy bazan
Honolulu, HI 96814
Oct 23, 2013

Vote No, for the following: 1. Let the people decide 2. Do not pass "as-is" or any "hurried fashion", prior to this becoming law, the language must be fully vetted - to protect the religious freedoms for all individuals and institutions.

Eric Austin
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 23, 2013

I am wholeheartedly against this special session and believe that it needs to be voted on by the registered voters of this state.

Sonny Shimaoka
Kamuela, HI 96743
Oct 23, 2013

Let the people decide.

Angie Gabat
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 23, 2013

Stop the government from restricting our churches and religious organizations the right to freely exercise their beliefs.

xiangang Li
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 23, 2013

Bonnie Lo
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 23, 2013

Tom & Emily Laidlaw
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 23, 2013

Molly A Williamson
Honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 23, 2013

Lois Austin
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 23, 2013

Please respect the wishes of the people of Hawaii. We have already voted on this issue.

Cynthia Urbach
Makawao, HI 96768
Oct 23, 2013

Caroline Burton
honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 23, 2013

Stop the special session, what's the rush, give Hawaii's people a chance to speak

russ higa
honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 23, 2013

Janet Grace
Honolulu, HI 96815
Oct 23, 2013

Chrystal Crawley
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 23, 2013

jie bai
Honolulu, HI 96826
Oct 23, 2013

David Ameen jr
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 23, 2013

Paulette Perkins
Kahului, HI 96732
Oct 23, 2013

KUULEI MARTINS
hi, HI 96752
Oct 23, 2013

Aaron Cordeiro
Honolulu, HI 96825
Oct 23, 2013

Kill the Governor's Bill; NO Special Session; NO TO SAME SEX MARRIAGE!

Louis L Gonzales
K, HI 96746
Oct 23, 2013

Damon Clark
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 23, 2013

Please stop the Governor's bill that will, restrict our churches and religious organizations the right to freely exercise their beliefs!

Mary Mabel Todd
Kihei, HI 96753
Oct 23, 2013

Don Wisniewski
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 23, 2013

Jeremy Foster
LIHUE, HI 96766
Oct 23, 2013

I support religious liberty in Hawaii.

Robin Chinen
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 23, 2013

Zhu, Min
Honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 23, 2013

Jose & Jolina Felix-Keamoai
Eleele, HI 96705
Oct 23, 2013

Michael S.
Anaheim, CA 92801
Oct 23, 2013

Traditional Marriage

Vanell K Naum
Waianae, HI 96792
Oct 23, 2013

For reasons given in this petition, plus a) it skirts the democratic process which would allow ADEQUATE public input & b) wastes taxpayer dollars, the SPECIAL SESSION SHOULD BE CANCELED!

Carol Nakata
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 23, 2013

Let the people's voice count

Sam Kapu
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 23, 2013

Kelsie Dizon
Lihue, HI 96766
Oct 23, 2013

Please allow the people to vote

Peggy Ciriako
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740
Oct 23, 2013

Ann Ward
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 23, 2013

Carl E. Harris
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 23, 2013

NO! to Same Sex Marriage!!!!

Ernell H Gonzales
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 23, 2013

Larie Manutai
Honolulu, HI 96826
Oct 23, 2013

Please protect our religious rights Please protect our children. Allow the people of Hawaii to vote on this issue.

Sandra Dela Cuadra
Kapolei, HI 96707-1926
Oct 23, 2013

James Stern
Honolulu, HI 96815
Oct 23, 2013

Please protect our religious freedom and kill the governors bill in special session.

Kathryn Nishie
Honolulu, HI 96813
Oct 23, 2013

Rod Shimabukuro
Honolulu, HI 96816
Oct 23, 2013

I do not support a bill that will allow marriage between couples of the same sex. I believe it is and always has been the will of the people and as such so be voted on by the people and not by the few. Please do not circumvent our constitutional rights by conveneing this session on behalf of this bill

bryan jeremiah
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 23, 2013

Brook K. Parker
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 23, 2013

Alyse Thomson
Honolulu, HI 96822
Oct 23, 2013

Carla Simao
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 23, 2013

Jackie Pauole
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 23, 2013

Brianna Acosta
Honolulu, HI 96814
Oct 23, 2013

Please protect our religious rights.

Drena Parker
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 23, 2013

Kerrie Woodall
Honolulu, HI 96825
Oct 23, 2013

Doug Kozub
LIHUE, HI 96766
Oct 23, 2013

Selina Ortiz
Ewa beach, HI 96706
Oct 23, 2013

A. Stephen woo Jr
HILO, HI 96720
Oct 23, 2013

Raegan Diana
Anahola, HI 96703
Oct 23, 2013

Joshua Sandobal
kilauea, HI 96754
Oct 23, 2013

This bill discriminates against people of faith and our right to freedom of expression! This question should come before the people who will be affected forever.

Kent Kitagawa
Pearl City, HI 96782
Oct 23, 2013

Gill berger
Honolulu, HI 96825
Oct 23, 2013

Miranda Ching
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 23, 2013

John
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 23, 2013

Laura Moniz
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 23, 2013

Stacey Chinen
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 23, 2013

Peniette AhPuck
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 23, 2013

Christine Farias
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 23, 2013

manuel r rodriguez
princeville, HI 96722
Oct 23, 2013

Robert E. Walden
Hoolehua, HI 96729
Oct 23, 2013

I hate to see the United States become like the country I came from--the elected elites of Hawaii think they know better than the majority of the people--and do not allow us to decide on those issues that impact our families and faith.

Yong Melton
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 23, 2013

Dave Barr
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 23, 2013

Sandy & Tom Gonsalves Jr.
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 23, 2013

Preston Ebinger
lihue, HI 96766
Oct 23, 2013

Rachel Dela Cruz
Lawai, HI 96765
Oct 23, 2013

James Mundon IV
Lihue, HI 96766
Oct 23, 2013

Dina Bybee
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740
Oct 23, 2013

Please let the people decide!

Kelsey Mundon
Lihue, HI 96766
Oct 23, 2013

Ray Ho
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 23, 2013

Nathan Malauulu
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 23, 2013

Stephanie Funtanilla
Eleele, HI 96705
Oct 23, 2013

Please protect our constitutional rights. The special legislative session disenfranchises the voters of Hawaii and infringes upon our First Amendment rights. The bill does not protect the free exercise of religion. At a minimum this bill should be considered during a regular session where proponents and opponents can provide sufficient input. A five day session to consider legislation that will transform all aspects of Hawaii's society forever is inadequate and unjust. In reality this should be decided by the people of Hawaii not 76 legislators.

Danny Melton
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 23, 2013

Jaclyn
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 23, 2013

Let the people of Hawaii exercise their right to vote on this issue.

Kurt and Tia Viluan
Kapaa, HI 96746

Oct 23, 2013

Rachel Kalama
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 23, 2013

Please do not allow same sex marriage in Hawaii or please let the people decide.

Matthew Higa
Kapaa, HI 96746
Oct 23, 2013

Nancy Matsumoto
Wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 23, 2013

Barbara Honda
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 23, 2013

susan kanda
WAIANAE, HI 96792
Oct 23, 2013

This country has always lived under god and it shall stay that way.. taking away our churches is a sin!!

lester barredo
honolulu, HI 96818
Oct 23, 2013

Phyllis A Young
Honolulu, HI 96825
Oct 23, 2013

let's do it in regular session in 2013 to fully discuss and hear the public heart

colleen nomura
Hon., HI 96816
Oct 23, 2013

Kill this bill ridiculous bill. I support traditional marriage

Matthew Vidaurri
Aiea, HI 96701
Oct 23, 2013

SAY NO NO TO SAME SEX MARRIAGE.

sam sail
keaaau, HI 96749
Oct 23, 2013

The Constitution of the United States gives us religious freedom. How can a governor take it away?

Nancy Underwood
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 23, 2013

Dylan Bullock
Makawao, HI 96768
Oct 23, 2013

Why is Hawaii the only state having a rushed special session over this issue? Please respect the democratic process and let the people decide on marriage!

Cheryl Toyofuku
Pearl City, HI 96782
Oct 23, 2013

Sherry Arkangel
Keaaau, HI 96749-8228
Oct 23, 2013

Mat
Pukalani, HI 96788
Oct 23, 2013

Ridiculous

Kanoe Bertlemann
Kamuela, HI 96843
Oct 23, 2013

Jarrah Sivertsen
Hauula, HI 96717
Oct 23, 2013

Kiana Johnson
Wailuku, HI 96793
Oct 23, 2013

Vote NO.

Sunshine Bolen
Honolulu, HI 96817
Oct 23, 2013

kailey
kihei, HI 96753
Oct 23, 2013

Alexa Hough
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 23, 2013

Roberta Duncan
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 23, 2013

Rick Lazor
HONOLULU, HI 96822
Oct 23, 2013

They are stomping on our religious and parental freedoms and rights as they are trying to afford for "equal" rights?!!! Stop the injustice. Stop building walls and start building bridges!

Brennan Dano
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 23, 2013

Vote NO on SSM bill!!

Wayne CORDEIRO
Honolulu, HI 96814
Oct 23, 2013

jennifer rapoza
hilo, HI 96720
Oct 23, 2013

Protect the hutch and our sacrilegious leaders! They have a right to their beliefs! Marriage has always been sacred to religion! Don't strip the church of their religious practices! It is unconstitutional!

Azure
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 23, 2013

Brian Akahoshi
Honolulu, HI 96819
Oct 23, 2013

Please vote NO on the same sex marriage bill. This impacts our society beyond the ceremony. Let the people decide!

Andrew Large
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Oct 23, 2013

Erika Pagan
Keaau, HI 96749
Oct 23, 2013

Trisha
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 23, 2013

LeGrand Goo
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 23, 2013

Lance Takai
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 23, 2013

Lii Purcell
Aiea, HI 96702
Oct 23, 2013

Same sex marriage is an attack on all that promotes life and moral decency. Massachusetts chose this path and now those that even mildly disagree are being persecuted under the guise of "it's the law". It's the law alright, a law that promotes perversion against all that would not have it in their families. A grotesque perversion of all that is obviously natural and right. The rights of those that hold to traditional marriage need to have their constitutional rights protected, and this bill doesn't do it.

Christopher Melvin
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 23, 2013

Let the people decide on this issue. I support traditional marriage.

David Mejia
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 23, 2013

Aaron Alapai
Hlolualoa, HI 96725
Oct 22, 2013

Dallin Tanabe
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 22, 2013

Stop the government from restricting our churches and religious organizations the right to freely exercise their beliefs.

Abbie Mejia
Kailua, HI 96734
Oct 22, 2013

Let the people decide !

Betty Chee
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740
Oct 22, 2013

I am not in agreeance with this bill at all. This bill is prohibiting many different religions to practice the freedom that many people have died over. Jesus Christ has taught that marriage is a sacred constitution that is between men and women and within that sacred bond we are to bring children into this world. I am married and I have a 15 week old son and I want him to be raised on the teachings of Jesus Christ, and to honor what the bible has taught us all these years. Heavenly Father gave Adam and Eve (not Adam and Steve or Eve and Jean) to multiply and replenish the earth and that commandment continues on today. If this passes that commandment is being rejected and it demonstrates that the state of Hawaii does not care at all about Heavenly Father nor his commandments.

Christal Tonumaipea
Laie, HI 96762
Oct 22, 2013

Let the people decide on this issue that has broad ramifications!

Ben Tamamoto
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 22, 2013

LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE

Song Kenyon
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 22, 2013

Please let the people decide on this important issue!

Phil Yasuhara
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 22, 2013

It seems that my rights to educate children within my private school are not as important as others who wish to impose a harmful and immoral lifestyle on young minds. Please allow us to keep our rights to choose how our hearts lead us to educate our children. Thank you.

Rose Marie Simpson
Pearl City, HI 96782
Oct 22, 2013

Why are we wasting tax payers money for a special session. If you must waste money on this issue, put it to the people to vote, next election.

Sharon
Pearl City, HI 96782
Oct 22, 2013

Marsha M Krieger
Hilo, HI 96720
Oct 22, 2013

Robin Sapla
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 22, 2013

Let the people decide marriage.

Carrie Borge
Kailua Kona, HI 96740
Oct 22, 2013

Please let the people of Hawai'i Nei vote on Marriage. This is something that will impact our lives for ever. Please listen to the people of Hawai'i.

judy Taqerty
Kailua Kona, HI 96740
Oct 22, 2013

Teri Espinosa
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 22, 2013

richard p vae
ewa, HI 96706
Oct 22, 2013

Tasia Ststler
Captain Cook, HI 96704
Oct 22, 2013

Let the people decide.

catherine kinney
Kealakekua, HI 96750
Oct 22, 2013

Roland M Ho Jr.
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 22, 2013

I support traditional marriage. Please kill the bill in the special session coming up.

Karen Jones-Remigio
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 22, 2013

LET THE PEOPLE VOTE ON THIS ISSUE!

Michael Bennett
Kailua Kona, HI 96740
Oct 22, 2013

Jared Chun
Haleiwa, HI 96712
Oct 22, 2013

chet
kailua kona, HI 96740
Oct 22, 2013

Noelani Kaupiko
Kealakekua, HI 96750
Oct 22, 2013

Victoria Black
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 22, 2013

Let the people choose on this important moral issue.

Pablo Penaloza
Kailua Kona, HI 96740
Oct 22, 2013

Alex Contreras
Kailua Kona, HI 96745
Oct 21, 2013

Akamine, Gayle
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Oct 21, 2013

Please Let The People Decide

David Ross
Kailua-Kona, HI 96745
Oct 21, 2013

Risiti Liugalua
Waipahu, HI 96797
Oct 21, 2013

danielle lewis
kapolie, HI 96706
Oct 21, 2013

The Executive branch is not the one to write legislation...and the people spoke on this issue less than 10 years ago. No to this special session and to changing the definition of marriage in Hawaii.

Debra A. Tobler-Rydin
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 21, 2013

Ruth Pila
Honolulu, HI 96813
Oct 21, 2013

April Figueroa
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 21, 2013

Laurie Burgess
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 21, 2013

Malachi Maglaya
kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 21, 2013

Thank you for starting this position! Our God, our families and our public accommodation owners should NOT be discriminated against while we support same sex marriages.

Keith Kenyon
Kapolei, HI 96707
Oct 21, 2013

I wholeheartedly agree!!

Shelby Pruitt
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 21, 2013

Jared Pruitt
Mililani, HI 96789
Oct 21, 2013

From: [Jayne G](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Hawaii Marriage Equality Act
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 6:51:55 PM

Aloha,

My name is Jayne Gubler and I am a resident of Oahu, Hawaii. I am testifying on the state measure before the Senate on Marriage Equality. I am testifying in opposition to this bill. I have researched and compared Hawaii's marriage equality act to that of other states and find that Hawaii's is far too intrusive on the rights of independent organizations of faith. I myself attend a church that does not endorse same-gender marriages yet our clergy will be forced to perform them or face legal action. I feel that the freedom of worship how we please in our private church facilities is just as important as that of public accomodations, separate but equal.

Please take into account what the majority of the people of Hawaii want when you consider this bill. I feel strongly that your voting public do not agree with the current version of this bill.

Mahalo for your service.

Jayne Gubler
55-463 Moana Street
Laie, Hawaii 96762
808-234-9122

Dear Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

My name is Jean Tsuda and I vote in Senate District 24 and House District 50.

I am speaking to voice my opposition to Bill SB1 and this Special Session.

I am a voter who takes by civil responsibilities seriously and have voted ever since I was old enough to do so. You legislators were given the opportunity to represent us, to champion the cause which we, your constituents believe to be representative of the majority of the people. Voting yes on SB 1 is not a vote representing the majority of the people. The issue of same sex marriage is too important and complex to be relegated to a special session where there are only 2 public hearings scheduled as compared to the usual 5 in regular session. It has to be vetted properly in regular session. Special sessions are held for emergency situations or events such as 9/11 and the Super-Ferry or to correct technical flaws in our laws. Governor Abercrombie unilaterally called for the special session. No other state (34) is rushing in special sessions on this issue. At no other time has our Governor acted on his or her own to pass a law in special session. The democratic process is being circumvented. The voters should be given the opportunity to decide on this issue in a constitutional amendment in 2014.

Thank you.

From: [Eldean Kukahiko](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB1 RELATING TO EQUALITY
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 8:47:22 PM

FOR SENATE HEARING 10/28/13 10:30AM

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jeanette Kukahiko. My address is 47-237 Waihe'e Road. I am 7/8ths Hawaiian and proud of it. I am a mother of 6 and a grandmother of 22. I am in opposition to Same Sex Marriage for the following reasons:

1. This bill will hurt my children, grandchildren and all children of Hawaii. As I see it the schools will be forced to teach the homosexual life style which will directly conflict with my parental teachings of my Hawaiian ancestral traditions and my Christian faith. As it stands- THIS IS NOT PONO!
2. I believe that I have the right to raise my family with values that is lawful, morally right and has been right for over 2,000 years, and now you think that in 5 days of a special session you will be able to hear from all the people you represent to help you make an informed decision? I respectfully DISAGREE
3. LET US THE PEOPLE VOTE. IF YOU AR SO SURE THAT THIS IS WHAT THE PEOPLE WANTS, THEN LET US VOTE.....OR DO YOU THINK WE ARE NOT CAPABLE?
4. DO IT IN THE REGULAR SESSION-SLOW DOWN AND DO IT RIGHT

Sincerely....Jeanette Kukahiko

For the Senate hearing: Hearing on 10/28 @ 10:30am

Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am opposing Same Sex Marriage because of our heartfelt concern and compassion for the future of our state. I concern over the physical, mental and emotional problems that will beset those who choose the homosexual lifestyle, and I object to what this will do to our community, my children and to my traditional family life. Evidence clearly show that children must be raised in a traditional family environment to thrive and to grow.

In addition, legalizing Same Sex Marriage will have a negative effect on the liberties of religious freedom, as it relates to what the Bible holds as God's Truth and Christians' freedom to teach from it. Government should never define moral value and limit the teachings of faith group. Legalizing Same Sex Marriage will put a threat to religious freedom.

Therefore, please vote NO on any piece of the Same Sex Marriage bill!



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bigwavetomatoes@gmail.com

October 27, 2013

STRONGLY OPPOSE SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Aloha Honorable Chair Clayton Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

We agree in the State's ability to grant Civil Unions so a man can marry a man or a woman and another woman, as they choose.

PLEASE Make necessary changes to LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE on changing marriage. It is unfair to have such a HUGE decision be made, by a few legislators. This is a non-inclusive approach, compared to all-inclusive approach, that considers to HEAR ALL THE CITIZENS.

Setting limits on the rest of the population is not pono, nor portrays social justice and is unfair to the rest of us.

This bill HURTS and does not HELP our island community. This bill Helps one small group of people and discriminates against another group, that may not even be a resident of our island community. It hurts facilities ability to outreach and help everyone. We elect government officials to PROTECT ALL. This bill LIMITS RELIGIOUS PROTECTIONS.

Money is the root of all evil and this bill appears to look to protect commerce of one groups interest, while taking away liberties from the majority.

This bill prevents one group to extending Aloha to all. This bill sets limits on the activities to invite all, by limiting the facility to be shared with non members of a facility, due to "public accommodation" and the threat of law suits.

This bill is bias and unfair and does not recognize the toll and impact this will have on future generations because of imposing a will on one sector of the population who have religious convictions.

Sincerely, Jeanne Vana.....PLEASE OPPOSE

Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

It is with great concern that I write to you regarding SB 1; I strongly feel that passing this bill undermine the moral constitution of our state's culture. Such an important decision should not be made through a Special Session rather this important topic ought to be voted on by the people of Hawaii as it was in 1998. With approximately 70% of the populous opposing same sex marriage in 1998, it is incomprehensible to think that the majority of the people of Hawaii now feel differently on this subject, the fact that some would disagree with this assertion only serves to underscore the importance of allowing the people of Hawaii to vote on this subject.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jeffrey Mullis

From: [Jennifer Bryant](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: SB 1 - Same Sex Marriage - Written Testimony
Date: Wednesday, October 23, 2013 8:17:45 PM

To the Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Senate Bill 1 - Relating to Equal Rights; Marriage Equality
Special Session
Hearing Date / Time: Monday, October 28th, 2013; 10:30 am

Aloha, Senator Clayton Hee, Senator Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, and Senator Donna Kim Mercado,

Thank you for taking the time to read and acknowledge my testimony. I realize that your time is valuable, so I will be brief.

I wish to express my opposition to this Senate Bill as relating to Marriage Equality, or in essence Same Sex Marriage. I am a voting constituent in the McCully / Moili'ili District and I believe that the passing of this bill will forever shape the way our first amendment rights and the way we educate our children will be lived out.

I am a former middle school teacher in California and the Hawaii D.O.E., and current preschool director in downtown Honolulu. The ramifications of making no difference between genders (not only by giving them the right to marry, but by gender neutralizing language in documents and in practice of common language) will place proverbial cuffs on our parents and educators from teaching children the very real differences between boys and girls, men and women, and some of the traditional, yet necessary roles they occupy in society.

I am not against the union of two people who commit to love each other, but the act of marriage carries so much more weight, and changing that will leverage groups like the LGTB alliance to push for more and more rights just as they have done in Canada - since 2005 this country has struggled with the obliteration of *parental* rights to teach their children without the government getting involved through the schools, and allowing sexual education to enter the curriculum as early as *first grade*.

This issue is so much more than stopping bullying and anti-discrimination against homosexuals, it will trample on freedom of religion, speech, and education of ALL individuals. Educators and school counselors can still counsel students who have gender identity issues and discourage bullying of all kinds, even without marriage equality. The message can still be focused on the individual person or even partners who wish to continue their civil unions.

Please do not allow our state to change the face of equal rights and have a negative affect on how we raise our children. Thank you again for your time - please make the right choice for your children and grandchildren.

Most Sincerely,

Mrs. Jennifer Bryant

--

Assistant Director

Ke Aloha Ho'okahi Preschool

670 Auahi Street, #A4

Honolulu, HI 96813

(808) 440-8916 office

(808) 441-5633 fax

Website: www.kahpreschool.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/kahpreschool

For the Senate hearing: Hearing on 10/28 @ 10:30am

Clayton Hee, Chair

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: **TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY**

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I would like to take this opportunity to inform you that I am opposed to there being a Special Session on any same-sex marriage issue.

Same-sex marriage is not a civil right. No court (including the United States Supreme Court) has ever said that same-sex marriage is civil right. In 2002, the **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.** rejected the complaint that New Zealand banned same-sex marriage violating civil right.

It is my opinion that the issue of same-sex marriage should be voted on by the public just as it was back in 1998 when the majority of citizens in the State of Hawaii voted to approve a constitutional amendment against same-sex marriages. The use of a special session limits my opportunity to voice my opinion on this issue and may result in legislation that does not represent the will of the people.

Please let the people decide on marriage.

From: [Jeremy Honold](#)
To: [JDL Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Opposition of SB1
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 7:51:50 PM

Dear Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am writing to voice my opposition to Bill SB1.

I believe the people of Hawaii should decide this matter. I believe the legislature is going against the will of the people. I am asking you to allow the people to decide on the issue of marriage as I believe the legislature is going against the will of the people. I support equality for all including the rights of conscience and religious freedom, which I ask you to respect as our elected leaders.

I am opposed to the most contentious social issue in our history being decided virtually in one week and ask that you please uphold the principles of democracy and the democratic process which are being disregarded in this special session. Something of this magnitude should not be decided in one week, nor should every voice in the islands be ignored.

This bill should be given due process during the regular session where it can properly be vetted and examined as all other bills. The people who elected you to serve as their voices should have a say in public policy that will forever obliterate thousand of years of indigenous and non-native culture, customs and traditions. We were founded on letting the people have their voices be heard. By closing the doors and letting a small group decide the fate of an entire state, I believe you are saying no to democracy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Jeremy Honold
Kapolei, HI 96707

From: [Joan Yanazaki](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 8:19:35 PM

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I believe that our laws and the system that is set up to govern our people were set in place so that decisions that affect all of us are not made by just a few. In 1998, all of our people had the opportunity to make their voices heard on how our state should define “marriage” and decided by a 69% - 28% majority, that marriage would consist of the legal union between one man and one woman. There was much discussion, debate, and TIME given to the public to allow voters to thoughtfully determine their choice on this important matter. And we did!

I am not in favor of same-sex marriage and I do not feel that it is right for *some* of our legislators to disregard the vote of the people of Hawaii by rushing and pushing through legislation in six days that will affect our state and its people forever.

You, our legislators, would be acting against the people of Hawaii and the federal court ruling of August 8, 2012 (Jackson vs. Abercrombie) by attempting to overturn the vote of our people. You do not have that right. The people of Hawaii gave you the right to define marriage as the union between one man and one woman. According to the Jackson vs Abercrombie ruling, “to suddenly constitutionalize the issue of same-sex marriage ‘would short-circuit’ the legislative actions that have been taking place in Hawaii.... Accordingly, because Hawaii’s marriage laws are rationally related to legitimate government interests, they do not violate the federal Constitution.”

It is my understanding that the recent ruling by the Supreme Court did not say there is a constitutional right to same-sex marriage. But rather, for those states who have allowed same-sex marriage, these couples cannot be denied the federal benefits that married couples receive. However, Hawaii does not allow same-sex marriage so we are not violating anyone’s constitutional rights or withholding any due benefits. Please do not twist the facts and confuse our people to make them think that Hawaii is doing something wrong.

As representatives of the people of Hawaii, I ask you to represent the people of Hawaii with honesty and integrity. You were not placed in your position to push forward your own personal or political agenda but rather, to represent the voice of your constituents. The people of Hawaii spoke out in force in 1998. Please listen to and represent the voice of our people. May God lead you and guide you to make the right decisions for the right reasons.

“The Life of the Land is Perpetuated in **Righteousness**”

Sincerely,
Joan Yanazaki
3142 Francis Street
Honolulu, HI 96815

From: [Tracy Hao](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Fw: Personal Testimony of same sex marriage issue
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 11:39:12 PM

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

MY NAME IS JOANNE WISINSKI AND I LIVE ON MOLOKAI

I am thankful that we live in a country where we have a voice. I am thankful to you who represent us, for all your hard work. Being out in the community I believe the majority of the voice of the people is asking for a NO vote on this. I am a mom, grandmother, a greatgrandmother and this is a real concern. I believe our children are a God given gift, not to be taken lightly. I believe we all have a right to make choices, but not to make changes to accommodate our choices, Please consider a NO vote.
Mahalo

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLWebTestimony](#)
Cc: joey_eaton@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 11:19:41 AM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/24/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Jocelyn Eaton	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am opposing this bill.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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

From: [Joey Carroll](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Same Sex Marriage
Date: Wednesday, October 23, 2013 7:09:22 PM

I am opposed to **Same Sex Marriage**. I feel this issue should be put on an election ballot, and should not be decided by government officials. Please - Let the people of Hawaii decide, what is best for Hawaii's future.

Mahalo,
Joey Carroll

Sent from my iPad

From: [John Wesley Nakao](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc: ["John Wesley Nakao"](#)
Subject: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY: LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE SAME SEX MARRIAGE
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 9:01:50 AM

JOHN NAKAO
99-1720 AIEA HEIGHTS DR.
AIEA, HI 96701
485-8888

HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE HAWAI'I STATE SENATE, MY NAME IS JOHN NAKAO; I AM THE OWNER OF AN INSURANCE BROKERAGE IN AIEA & I AM AGAINST THE INDOCTRINATION & FREEDOM CHOKING BLIGHT OF SAME SEX MARRIAGE IN HAWAI'I. THIS IS WHY:

IN 2003, MASSACHUSETTS BECAME THE FIRST STATE TO LEGALIZE SAME SEX MARRIAGE. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THAT, HOMOSEXUAL GROUPS BEGAN PROMOTING, QUOTE "MARRIAGE EQUALITY" UNQUOTE, IN HIGH SCHOOLS TRICKLING DOWN TO THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LEVEL. THEY THEN BEGAN PROMOTING GAY LIFESTYLES, EVENTUALLY USING LITERATURE SHOWING WHERE STUDENTS COULD MEET WITH GAY MEN & DESCRIBING GRAPHIC GAY SEXUAL PRACTICES. PARENTS COULD NOT OPTION OUT THEIR CHILDREN FROM THIS INDOCTRINATION. ANY PERSON, BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION, WHO DISAGREED FACED THE POSSIBILITY OF A SUIT, POSSIBLE ARREST & OFTEN PERSISTENT HARRASSMENT BY GAY ORGANIZATIONS. (LOCALLY, SENATOR GABBARD LOST HIS FAMILY RESTAURANT BUSINESS THROUGH GAY PICKETTING, HIS CHILDREN WERE TRAUMATIZED & HIS CAR VANDALIZED BY GAY HARRASMENT IN RETALIATION FOR CREATING A ORGANIZATION TO PROMOTE TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE VALUES.) GAY MARRIAGE IN MASSACHUSETTS HAS BECOME A POLITICALLY CORRECT STRANGLEHOLD TO FIRST AMENDMENT FREEDOMS OF SPEECH, CONSCIENCE & RELIGION. DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN TO THE CITIZENS & ESPECIALLY CHILDREN OF HAWAI'I.

IT IS AN EMBARASSMENT TO ALL OF US THAT DEMOCRACY IN HAWAI'I - THAT GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE & FOR THE PEOPLE - HAS BEEN VIOLATED BY THIS SPECIAL SESSION CALLED FOR THE EXPRESSED NON-EMERGENCY PURPOSE OF PASSING THE SOCIAL CANCER OF SAME SEX MARRIAGE UPON THE PEOPLE IN FIVE DAYS. HISTORY TELLS US THAT A COUNTRY COLLAPSES FROM DECAY THAT COMES FROM WITHIN THE SOCIETY. TRUTHFULLY, I AM EMBARASSED FOR YOU THAT WE NEED TO APPEAR BEFORE YOU TO TESTIFY THAT THE MAJORITY OF PEOPLE IN HAWAII DO NOT WANT SAME SEX MARRIAGE HERE.

IN MEMORY, ONLY TWO OTHER SPECIAL SESSIONS HAVE BEEN CALLED FOR EMERGENCIES OF THE FAILING OF THE SUPER FERRY & TO ASSESS THE 9/11 ATTACK IMPACT ON HAWAII. GAYS REPRESENT 5% OF HAWAI'I'S POPULATION - WITH LIMITED PUBLIC OR SENATE/HOUSE LEADERSHIP INPUT, GOVERNOR ABERCROMBIE ARROGANTLY CALLED THIS SPECIAL

SESSION TO RAILROAD SAME SEX SPECIAL INTERESTS OVER THE OBJECTIONS OF AT LEAST HALF OF THE PEOPLE YOU CLAIM TO REPRESENT.

AS YOU KNOW BETTER THAN I DO, THERE HAS BEEN AN UNPRESIDENTED NUMBER OF CALLS & EMAILS TO YOUR OFFICES ON SAME SEX MARRIAGE DUE TO THE DEEPLY FELT & BROAD IRREVERSABLE SOCIAL RAMIFICATIONS OF THIS LAW. THIS IS INDEED A PUBLIC ISSUE AFFECTING ALL OF US & THUS SHOULD BE AN ISSUE THAT ALL OF US DECIDE BY VOTE. SO STRONG ARE FEELINGS REGARDING THIS ISSUE, MANY LIKE MYSELF BELIEVE YOUR "YES" VOTE FOR GAY MARRIAGE WILL RESULT IN A "NO" VOTE FOR YOUR RE-ELECTION! YOU CAN CHOOSE YOUR REPRESENT ONE ELEMENT OF YOUR PARTY PLATFORM OR THE WILL OF PEOPLE WHO ELECTED YOU.

I THEREFORE ENCOURAGE YOU, DEAR SENATE MEMBERS, BE BOLD & COURAGEOUS - DO NOT CAVE IN TO POLITICAL PARTY CORRECTNESS TO ESTABLISH HOMOSEXUAL PRIVILEGES OVER THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS OF YOUR CONSTITUENTS. THE LIFE OF THE LAND IS PERPETUATED IN RIGHTEOUSNESS. PLEASE DO WHAT RIGHT, DEMOCRATIC & REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PEOPLE THAT YOU REPRESENT BY ALLOWING THE PEOPLE WHOM SAME SEX MARRIAGE WILL AFFECT - ALL OF US - DECIDE BY VOTE THE FUTURE WE WANT FOR HAWAII.

John Wesley Nakao
99-1720 Aiea Heights Drive
Aiea, HI 96701
(808) 485-8888

From: [Jonna Lewis](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Fwd: Senate Hearings Same Sex Marriage
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 8:41:14 AM

Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am opposed to the proposed legislation for the following reasons:

1. We should not be having a Governors Special Session. This should be decided by the vote of the people and not the legislature.
2. We should not be reinventing the definition of marriage. This will result in a seismic shift in cultural values and this will help erode even further protection for children, women and families.
3. I feel this will take away my religious freedom.

I OPPOSE THIS BILL, VOTE AGAINST ALL LEGISLATION SUPPORTING SAME SEX MARRIAGE.

Jonna Lewis

From: judyarthuronmaui@aol.com
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Same sex marriages and SB NO 1
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 9:49:14 AM

I AM AGAINST THIS BILL AND SAME SEX MARRIAGES! JUDY ARTHUR

Personal Testimony Presented Before
the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Sen. Clayton Hee, Chair
Sen. Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

October 28, 2013, 10:30 am (*hearing date and time*)

by
Justin Akagi
700 Richards Street, #1002
Honolulu, HI 96813

Opposition for SB 1, Relating to Equal Rights

(Not testifying in person, submitting written testimony only)

I would like to take this opportunity to inform you that I am opposed to the Senate voting on same sex marriage during this special session.

It is my opinion that the issue of same sex marriage should be voted on by the public (just as it was back in 1998) so that every single one of your constituents will have the opportunity to have their individual voice heard. Although the Senate members represent their constituents when voting on many issues, I believe that a decision of this magnitude should be made by all members of the community with adequate time to make an informed and educated decision, rather than a small subset (who represent some, but not all of their constituents' opinions on issues).

Instead of voting "yes" for same sex marriage during this special session, please consider not voting or abstaining from a vote, so that we can ensure that an irrevocable decision of this magnitude will not unknowingly affect our other Constitutionally-guaranteed civil liberties.

I also believe that many potential consequences of this bill have not been taken into formal consideration (as should be the case before making a decision of such magnitude), such as the effects on religious freedom, the educational system in Hawai'i, the economy, and the community.

Before making this decision, more comprehensive research should be done on other states and countries that have legalized same sex marriages, and how that decision has affected their communities and civil liberties (e.g., religious freedom). I believe that if we allow Hawai'i's citizens to vote on same sex marriage, there will be time for the entire community to make an informed and educated decision on the matter. It does not seem that due diligence is being met by making the decision to vote on a bill of this magnitude during a special session.

Please do not make this enormous decision without your constituents truly having a voice in the decision of this issue.

From: [Justine Kadokawa](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Re: Strong Opposition of SB1
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 10:36:28 PM

Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: Strong Opposition of SB1

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

We are writing to voice our opposition to Bill SB1 relating to equality.

We strongly feel that the legalization of same-sex marriage could have detrimental consequences for our state and residents. Not only for families today, but also for our future generations. We ask that you please consider our concerns.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Justine Kadokawa, Patricia Kadokawa and Jody Kadokawa
95-1076 Ahea street
Miliani, HI 96789

From: [Kali Fermantez](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: I'm a voter and I oppose same sex marriage
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 8:48:10 AM

Aloha,

As a registered voter and lifetime resident of Hawaii I strongly oppose same sex marriage because of my religious beliefs - marriage has and should continue to be defined as between a man and a woman, and children are entitled to being raised in this kind of traditional family. Further, I feel this issue should be decided by a vote of the people -NOT in a special session.

However, if same sex marriage is legalized in Hawaii, we need stronger exemptions for religious organizations, clergy, and businesses - the proposed bill does not protect our freedom of religion.

Mahalo,

Kali Fermantez
55-285 Kamehameha Hwy
Laie, Hawaii 96762

From: [karli](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 2:04:56 PM

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

My name is Karli Miyata, and I am a 36 year old lifetime resident of Hawaii. **I oppose SB1** and redefining "marriage". (Would it be ok to redefine "native Hawaiian" just so we all can apply to Kamehameha Schools and receive other benefits of native Hawaiians? I don't think so.)

I am not in opposition to the gay & lesbian community. We all have free will, and whatever we choose does not make one any more or less of a human being. God loves us all equally. Although I believe that gays & lesbians should have certain rights, I also believe that our existing rights to freedom of speech, religion & conscience should be protected first and foremost. As written, SB1 does not guarantee that protection. There is clear evidence that these rights have been infringed upon in every place that has legalized same-sex marriage. So I urge you to not let history repeat itself. Please protect our right of choice too.

Holding a special session and rushing such a weighty decision is not the proper way of handling this. Please do the right thing and let the people decide. Mahalo.

Sincerely,
Karli Miyata
98-458 Kilihea Way
Aiea, HI 96701

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLWebTestimony](#)
Cc: kathyskelton920@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 9:17:20 PM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/26/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
kathy m shelton	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I Would Like For You On My Behalf Not To PasS The Same Sex Marriage, I StanD For A Marriage Between A Man And Woman As In The Bible.
Thank you

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to give you my testimony in regards to Senate Bill 1, or the State of Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013.

I feel that this legislation needs to be voted on as an Amendment to the Constitution of the State of Hawaii. If a decision of this magnitude, which will directly and indirectly affect so many of our citizen's, **and the future of generations to come**, is not placed on the ballots for an amendment it would be a slap in the face for democracy. A vote was held on similar legislation in 1998, and I strongly urge you to consider this action.

Both sides have an argument for their views. Both sides have provided testimony here today.

Regardless of what is required at the minimum to pass this legislation through this special session, I ask that you do the right thing and move to suspend Senate Bill 1, or the State of Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013, and introduce the necessary legislation for a vote by the people to make an amendment to the state constitution.

The results of that vote should be the determining factor. Once the vote is completed, a clear vision of where the majority of voters stand on this issue will be provided.

That would be the correct time to move this bill forward if it is warranted, not now.

Thank you.

From: [Kaye Katherine Destacamento](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Opposition to bill S.B. NO. 1
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 10:27:40 AM

I am Kaye Katherine Destacamento. I am young wife; just got married few months ago. I am testifying in regards to S.B. NO. 1 and let it be documented that I personally oppose this bill and any fraction thereof. I am taking this stance: I know and believe that marriage should just be between a man and a woman. I can't imagine the world having children who have parent with the same sex; it's not healthy for them psychologically, emotionally, and socially. How can we have a better future if our future generation is not taught with correct values? I appreciate the time you have spent in hearing my position, which again is opposition to bill S.B. NO. 1.

Sincerely,
Kaye Katherine Destacamento

From: [Eldean Kukahiko](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB1 RELATING TO EQUALITY
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 5:11:56 AM

FOR SENATE HEARING 10/28/13 10:30am

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee,

My name is Kehaulani Quinata. I am a student at Windward Community College and I live at 47-237 Waihe'e Road. I am opposed to Same Sex Marriage because I do not understand all the problems that is ahead for us because of this legislation. I hear from other states that it is very bad for the regular people. Why don't we learn from the other states what works and what does not?-then present that to us and let us decide.

Sincerely, Kehaulani Quinata

October 25, 2013

I am strongly against same sex marriage. Financial gain seems to be at the root of this strong push toward same sex marriage in this special session. However, over time it will not be a benefit to our state but rather a hindrance because of the negative impact it will have on the morality of our state. It will weaken the basis for our society, the family unit.

Instead of pushing same sex marriage through for financial gain please let the people vote on this very important issue.

Thank you,
Kellee Emmerich

From: yasuharak@aol.com
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: SB 1
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 5:05:28 PM

10/25/13

Hearing date: 10/28/13

OPPOSITION to SB 1
Ken Yasuhara

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

Since the governor is NOT allowing any amendments to this bill, all testimony directed toward amending this bill is moot and a waste of time for all of us here. Therefore, I would like to address the process by which this bill is trying to be approved.

DEMOCRACY has been defined as a government in which decisions are voted upon by the public.

Some how, it feels as if the democratic process is being circumvented here.
Why the urgency to get this bill passed so quickly? If it were for tax purposes, why aren't the other 34 states where SSM is not recognized also not clamoring to get a similar bill passed ASAP?

Shouldn't the role of an elected official be one that represents their constituent's voices and not trying to advance ANY personal agendas?

I believe it is extremely irresponsible and even dangerous when an elected official ignores the majority of their constituency and does what ever he or she wants based on his or her own personal beliefs.

Because SSM is such a heated, emotional issue, it is extremely difficult to converse with someone intellectually or analytically on the subject. It truly is a matter of the heart.

Regardless of what your personal views are on this issue, I believe this bill should be struck down. If you disagree with this bill, then vote NO; if you agree with this bill, I ask that you also vote NO so that the PEOPLE can have an opportunity to have a say in this emotional issue.

I cannot, in good conscience, and for the sake of my daughter and my family, let this issue go unchallenged on my watch without at least voicing my concerns and speaking out against this bill.

I ask that you vote NO on this bill, and let the PEOPLE VOTE on this critical issue!

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Yasuhara

Sent from my iPad

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: JDLWebTestimony
Cc: keonimay@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 10:20:07 AM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/25/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Keoni Ronald May	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Greetings to the Senate: I have family & friends, who are gays & lesbians. It is far easier for me to accept, a Civil Union, as long as gays & lesbians have, all of the Legal Rights of a Marriage. I don't want the definition of a marriage, to be redefined, in the 21st Century. This institution has existed for thousands of years. Once Legislators redefine marriage, even the Bible can be legally challenged. Freedom of Religion, will cease to exist. Political Correctness, can redefine, all religions. Respectful Regards, Keoni Ronald May Roosevelt Graduate Viet Nam Veteran Old KCC Graduate UH Graduate Active Registered Voter Queen Emma Hawaiian Civic Club Member

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLWebTestimony](#)
Cc: kerriewoodall@msn.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)
Date: Wednesday, October 23, 2013 12:35:55 PM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/23/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Kerrie Woodall	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I believe that marriage is for the purpose of having children and that only extends to a male/female relationship. Keep Civil Unions for same sex couples. Don't redefine marriage, it is the destruction of civilization as we know it.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Kevin and Sylvia Kondo
2370 Jasmine Street
Honolulu, HI 96816
Email: sylviak2370@gmail.com
Phone: (808) 497-5700

October 25, 2013

Subject: Opposition to SB1 Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013

Honorable House Speaker Joseph Souki,

Our family would like to register its opposition to same sex marriage being voted on at the upcoming special session on October 28, 2013. We speak for many of our neighbors who are loyal citizens of this great nation and State of Hawaii. The majority of the citizenry voiced its support of traditional marriage back in 1998. It would be very wrong to go against the citizen's choice, and instead attempt to legislate same sex marriages in this special session. This would fly in the face of what has been the norm from the beginning, and will fly in the face of what God ordained for marriage. Same sex marriages would further destabilize our culture and create untoward problems both for us now and for our posterity. Children need the stability of a father and a mother, and experience has shown that alternate family structures can never replace this. We face so many problems with single parent families, why would this State desire to take on even greater problems with same sex marriage.

You must consider carefully the impact your vote will have, to either strengthen or weaken this great State both now and for future generations. Do you want your names to go down in history associated with a measure that has been perpetrated upon our State by a vocal minority? Our hearts go out to our youngsters who will inherit the problems that will be created if you allow same sex marriage to prevail. We urge you to stand behind the majority of the citizens of this State, and vote no to same sex marriage.

Sincerely,

Kevin and Sylvia Kondo

From: [Kevin Hanna](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Sopecial Session on Same Sex Marriage
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 3:55:25 PM

Though the Special Session now seems imminent, please remove from the agenda or or vote down the Same Sex marriage (SSM) bill proposed by the Governor's office.

The calling of a Special Session was never intended as a vehicle to change social behavior and make social public policy, it is a mechanism to handle legitimate emergencies which "REQUIRE" a timely response.

The SSM initiative in no way fits this intent.

The Special Session does not allow for adequate public input and/or the amending the proposed legislation. While I recognize that there are two days scheduled out of the 5 or 6 days of deliberation, this is not sufficient to hear the testimony of most of the people of these islands. To my knowledge, both of these hearings are in Oahu and none that I now of here in Hilo where or any of the other islands.

This is not the sort of issue that should be rushed into, just so that a very few may benefit for the tax implications which are sited as one of the main reasons to push this though quickly.

What is the MOST important result of this battle is not the passage or failure of any one legislative item, it is the adherence to the the democratic process.

If the public is not engaged in the processes on such an important issue, then indeed Democracy have taken a severe blow.

Please do not subvert the democratic process by forcing the issue in special session.

Please remove the Same Sex Marriage bill from the agenda of this session and allow the people of Hawaii to be stake holders in both this issue and the process of government.

I have voted in every election since I became of age, and that will not change in the future. However, who I elect or re-elect to represent will very much depend on the outcome of the next few days.

Sincerely,
Kevin Hanna

From: [Kevin McNamara](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Equal Rights
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 10:09:12 AM

Please do not promote same sex marriage. It destroys the basic family structure our nation was founded on and grew strong on.

Thank You,
Kevin McNamara
PO Box 631930
Lanai City, HI
96763

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hearing Date/Time: Monday, October 28, 2013, 10:30 a.m.
Place:Capitol Auditorium
Re:Strong Opposition To SB1, Relating to Equal Rights

Dear Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am writing in strong opposition to SB 1.

Hawaii already has provided for Civil Unions, which grants the maximum amount of Equal Protections that a State can provide to a Same-Sex Couple.

There is NOTHING further to gain by taking on the subject of marriage equality, except for FEDERAL benefits and recognition -- in which case, it is a FEDERAL battle, not a State battle.

The burden is upon the Federal Government to extend Federal benefits of Marriage to those in Civil Unions, as well as Domestic Partnerships.

As the Marriage-Equality proponents prominently say, "The government should not be in the business of telling people who they can and cannot marry."

I am all for equal Civil Rights in Hawaii, and am confident Hawaii has sufficiently provided that with our recent passage of Civil Unions.

To now ask the People of Hawaii to consider anything further is an outrageous waste of time and resources; but should it move forward, said issue should be placed on a ballot for the Voting Public to decide.

Please discard this bill to allow the issue of marriage equality to be fought in its proper arena in the National Spotlight. Hawaii has already met the challenge of providing Equal Rights to same-sex couples by providing for Civil Unions.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: JDLWebTestimony
Cc: larryd143@earthlink.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 4:53:28 PM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/24/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
LAURETO N DRAPESA	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose same sex marriage. And it should be the people's will that decide it's legality, and not the Governor or the legislature.

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From: [Mildred Kane](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Strong Opposition to SB1
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 12:16:29 PM

To: The Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

From: .Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence B. Kane

Dear Chairperson Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

We understand that are now reviewing SB 1 "Relating to Equality" a bill that, if enacted, will forever redefine marriage in Hawaii. On October 28, the Senate Judiciary will be having a hearing and if it passes, you will be asked to vote yes or no! I understand the same process will happen as the bill makes it way through the House of Representatives.

This email is to ask you, please, vote NO on any piece of legislation that would redefine marriage. *At the very least, a constitutional amendment should be placed on the ballot next year so that we the people can make our voice heard on this important issue.*

As you consider the legislation before you, I want to make it very clear that we do not support same-sex "marriage."

Same-sex marriage should not be passed in a special session because:

- A five day special session is not enough time to discuss the most controversial issue of our time.
- No amendments can be made to legislation. As a result, true democracy is made a mockery of.
- Hawaii is the only state rushing into special session as a result of the Supreme Court decision. If the need was truly dire, then why haven't the other 34 states that do not permit same-sex marriage done so?
- A "yes" vote during special session is a "no" vote to democracy because the voice of the people is NOT heard in a five-days special session, especially if that voice is "amend the bill"
- The people believed they voted on this issue in 1998 – the polls (allegedly) show that Hawaii favors same-ex marriage. So why not let the people vote?

Same-sex "marriage" is not merely about same-sex couples getting "married." It is about new marriage and family norms and values being imposed on society by the government, with threat of punishment for those who do not conform, or who will not abandon their deeply-held moral beliefs or values which are now recognized as the norm. Wherever same-sex "marriage" is legal, individuals, businesses, organizations, and even churches have been punished. People have been fined or sued, or lost their jobs, for merely posting their beliefs on Facebook or for stating what is in the Bible. The time restriction on testifying prevents us from listing more examples. But I hope that you our lawmakers do not deny the reality that the LGBTQ activist movement are poised to do all they can to turn our society upside down with lawsuits and with further legislation to impose their values on our culture, beginning with children in the schools. Their local leaders have very recently stated that besides same-sex "marriage", two priority goals are to make gender reparative therapy illegal in Hawaii, and to require every school to have a Gay-Straight Alliance organization.

We learned from the media that the majority of our lawmakers had decided to approve same-sex "marriage", long before the public could be heard. This special session is rushed and does not give ample time for us to be heard and for you, our lawmakers, to carefully consider the repercussions of same-sex "marriage."

I respectfully ask that this bill be rejected, for many serious reasons. In 1998, we the people of Hawaii thought we voted for marriage between opposite-sex couples. Please do not betray us by dishonoring the will of the people. I join the tens of thousands of people who are shouting for our lawmakers to allow the people to decide on marriage. **I ask you to pass legislation which will allow us to vote once again on a Constitutional Amendment to preserve marriage between one man and one woman.**

Respectfully submitted.

Lawrence B. and Mildred C. Kane

24 October 2013

Aloha Chairman Hee and esteemed members of the Judiciary and Labor Committee,

My name is Leila Ikemoto Lee. I am a small business owner, a mother, and a grandmother which is why I am writing today for a sense of urgency.

I am humbly asking our elected officials to delay the special session until a regular session, so enough information can be disseminated and heard about the same-sex marriage bill. A lot has been heard and said about civil unions, but not nearly enough on same-sex marriage.

I am also wary about this bill as to its effect on religious liberties and how it may affect my convictions as it relates to my business.

Lastly, as a grandmother, I wish to see my precious grandchildren grow in a place where their religious beliefs are protected and are fostered and are free to grow. This is the legacy I wish to leave them — a land where King Kamehameha III proclaimed, "We the people of Hawaii, grateful for Divine Guidance, and mindful of our

Hawaiian heritage and uniqueness as an island state, dedicate our efforts to fulfill the philosophy decreed by the Hawaii State motto, "Ua mau ke ea o Ka aina i ka pono."

Thank you for allowing me to briefly state my position. It is wonderful to participate in our legislative process.

Mahalo,

Leila J. Lee

5233 Keikilani Cir.

Hon., HI 96821

From: [Leo Alarcio](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 5:29:17 PM

October 26, 2013

Hearing on 10/28 @ 10:30am

Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I strongly oppose this SB 1 relating to equality. It is my deep concern that this will bill affect our current and future generations.

I strongly believe in a marriages that is a man and a woman. I believe that a same sex marriage will alter the course of our state for the good of the people.

I want to express that I have no ill feelings towards the people who believes in same sex marriages but I will not vote for this bill to pass, and it is the right of the people to vote on this issue and not solely on the governor's decision.

Respectfully,

Leonardo Alarcio
Leonardo078@msn.com

October 25, 2013

Testimony AGAINST SB1

Aloha,

I am OPPOSED to the Same-Sex Marriage Bill. Please vote NO on SB1!

I respect and love my fellowmen. I respect the right of all US citizens to choose their way of life. But this law will infringe upon MY fundamental & constitutional rights to freedom of speech and freedom of religion. These are far more valuable than giving a few of the citizens of Hawaii the right to receive Federal Marriage Benefits.

Please preserve our states' fundamental freedoms. Please vote NO to the Same-Sex Marriage Bill!

Mahalo!

Linda Reece

56-250 Leleuli St.

Kahuku, HI 96731

From: [Lisa Kitagawa-Akagi](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Please Do Not Support Same Sex Marriage - Written Testimony
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 9:55:43 PM

Personal Testimony Presented Before
the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Sen. Clayton Hee, Chair
Sen. Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

October 28, 2013, 10:30 am (*hearing date and time*)

by

Lisa Kitagawa-Akagi
700 Richards Street, #1002
Honolulu, HI 96813

Opposition for SB 1, Relating to Equal Rights

(Not testifying in person, submitting written testimony only)

I would like to take this opportunity to inform you that I am opposed to the same sex marriage bill (SB 1).

It is my opinion that the issue of same sex marriage should be voted on by the public just as it was back in 1998 when the majority of citizens in the State of Hawai'i voted to approve a constitutional amendment against same sex marriages. I would like to have my voice heard, as well as the voices of many others in our district who do not agree with the same sex marriage issue.

Instead of voting "yes" for same sex marriage during this special session, please consider not voting or abstaining from a vote, so that your constituents will have the opportunity to have their voices heard (either through a vote or through a longer legislative session which would allow for more dialogue around this issue and the ability to make amendments to bills) and

we can ensure that a decision of this magnitude will truly reflect what the people of Hawai'i want in regards to the same sex marriage issue.

I also believe that there are a lot of ramifications of this bill that have not been taken into consideration (at the depth and level that it should be). I believe that there would be negative ramifications of this bill in relationship to religious freedom, the economy, the educational system in Hawai'i, and the community. I feel that there has not been enough research done on other countries and states that have legalized same sex marriages and how that decision has affected their communities. I believe that if we wait to either allow Hawai'i's citizens to vote on same sex marriage or have a discussion on it during the regular legislative session, there will be time to conduct this type of research. It seems a bit rash to approve such a bill when there are so many possible ramifications to consider, as well as the significant impact that it will make on our state.

Please do not make this enormous decision without your constituents truly having a voice in the decision of this issue.

From: [Lisa Marlowe](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Opposition to Bill SB1
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 9:43:29 AM

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hearing Date/Time: Monday, October 28, 2013, 10:30 a.m.
Place: Capitol Auditorium
Re: Strong Opposition of SB1

Dear Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am writing to voice my opposition to Bill SB1.

I am asking you to allow the people to decide on the issue of marriage as I believe the legislature is going against the will of the people. I support equality for all including the rights of conscience and religious freedom, which I ask you to respect as our elected leaders.

I am opposed to this being decided virtually in one week and ask that you please uphold the principles of democracy and the democratic process which are being disregarded in this special session.

This bill should be given due process during the regular session where it can properly be vetted and examined as all other bills.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Lisa Marlowe
Laie, HI 96762

From: [Lynn Sawyer](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Hearing on 10/28
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 12:16:50 PM

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am writing to protest the Special Session on same-sex marriage. I think that this issue needs to be dealt with in a regular session and include the vote of the people. We believe that the people voted on this issue in 1998. If the polls show that Hawaii favors this law, then why not let the people vote? We are the only state rushing into this, and a 5-day session is not enough time to discuss the most controversial issue of our time.

It is our Legislators responsibility to respect and insure fundamental democratic principles. Since the people addressed this issue in 1998, we should be the ones consulted again. **Marriage is NOT a civil right, and no court (including the Supreme Court) has ever said that it is. A constitutional amendment** would better address same-sex marriage AND allow for ample public input. *Please do not make a mockery of our democratic rights and procedures!*

In addition, the governor's current bill will NOT protect church facilities (contrary to what he wants you to believe). If your church offers a public service (i.e. preschool, community group meetings), by definition, your church is a *public accommodation* and would be legally obligated to sanction a same-sex marriage if requested. ***This is in direct violation of First Amendment rights!***

PLEASE ALLOW OUR VOICE TO BE HEARD!

Loretta L. Sawyer
2629 Kinoole Street
Hilo, HI 96720

From: [Lynn T. Keahi](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#); JUDSStestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov
Subject: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 9:48:57 AM

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor; and Chairs Rhoads and Luke and Members of the House Judiciary and Finance Committees:

I vehemently oppose legalizing same-sex marriage in the state of Hawai'i. I believe that such a measure is in gross opposition to a sacred, timeless principle of the sanctity of marriage between a man and woman; further, it will compromise religious freedoms and will undermine vital morals crucial to the well-being (physical, spiritual, emotional, etc.) of our society.

If such a law is passed, what protections will be afforded for the exercise of religion, when our pastors will be required to marry same-sex couples and our exercise of religion violated? If there is no protection granted for our freedom of religious expression, then this law to permit same-sex marriage is flawed and should not be passed.

Over the years, our freedom of religious expression has long since been violated as alternative lifestyles are permitted to be taught in our schools, and our opposition for such curriculum squashed. We are ill afforded protections for the freedom of religious expression in advocating for traditional marriage, pro-life vs. abortion, teaching creationism, freedom of expression through prayer, and abstinence when teaching our youth about sex education in our public schools. I can no longer be passive in allowing government to create laws which will further compromise our freedom of religious expression.

Further, Brian J. Grim and Roger Finke, *The Price of Freedom Denied* and Hudson Institute's Center for Religious Freedom study, provides societal benefits of religious freedom quantified:

- Religious freedom promotes stability in a pluralistic society, but when limited, it correlates to increased violence and conflict.
- Wherever religious freedom is high, there is more economic prosperity, better health, lower income inequality and prolonged democracy.
- Religious freedom directly correlates with the protection afforded other civil and human rights; if some agency can control the yearnings of faith and conviction, then that agency could, in James

Madison's words, "sweep away all our fundamental rights," such as freedom of speech, press and assembly.

Laws are established to guide and regulate appropriate behaviors in our society. How will such a law benefit our society when moral fundamentals are compromised?

It should be noted that I oppose the legalization of same-sex marriage, the continuing degradation of our freedom of religious expression, and the compromise of essential moral values for the benefit of our society; however, I do not oppose an individual's right to choose their pursuits in life. I honor and value our unique qualities, and can truly accept an individual for who they are - charity never faileth.

Please consider and accept this testimony in concert with those who oppose legalizing same-sex marriage as you convene your 2013 Second Special Session. May you have the wisdom needed to convey a vote which will impact our society today, and that of our posterity for generations to come.

Most grateful for your service and consideration,
Lynn Lastimado-Keahi

For the Senate hearing: Hearing on 10/28 @ 10:30am

Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am opposing Same Sex Marriage because Same Sex Marriage violates Chinese Tradition.

American Chinese are very serious about family. We tell the youth that taking care the elderlies in the family is their duty. We finance businesses through family. We borrow money to buy properties through family. We obtain the best education through family.

We know from our hearts that we need love from father and mother, so we apply the same to others. Our children need love from their father and mother as we do.

Same Sex Marriage bill is going to destroy Chinese tradition. We want our local boys and girls know that rearing family biologically is the best. We want to give the best to our future.

Therefore, please vote NO on any piece of the Same Sex Marriage bill!

From: [Malia Kaai-Barrett](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Special session on Same Sex Testimony
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 5:04:21 PM

October 24, 2013

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Judiciary & Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capital 407
415 A. Beretania St.
Honolulu, HI 96817

Dear Chairman Hee & Committee Members;

I strongly URGE you to allow this issue to come to the people through a vote. I simply cannot understand why we can vote in 1998 and vote on Civil Unions but we can't vote on this issue.

I want the opportunity to use MY voice in this issue.

The Legislature is stealing our / MY voice as citizens of this State. This is our civic right!

It is our / MY opinion that this issue of Same Sex marriage should be voted on by the public and be allowed to be brought before the entire state via the voting ballot.

The use of THIS special session limits our / MY opportunity to voice our opinion on this issue and may result in legislation that does NOT represent the / MY will of the people you have been elected to represent.

It should NOT be decided upon by either our Governor or the State Legislature.

Let the voices of the citizens of our state have their voices heard on the issue of same sex marriage.

(capitalization used for emphasis)

Sincerely - a frustrated and concerned Voter.



Malia Kaai-Barrett
Henry Barrett Jr.
241 Kapalu St
Honolulu, HI 96813
524-3078
mkaaibarrett@gmail.com

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLWebTestimony](#)
Cc: mauricemoo@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 8:51:03 PM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/24/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Mamao Mo'o	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I would like to voice my opposition to SB1. I am for traditional marriage as currently defined between a man and a woman and I am for protecting religious freedoms as currently constituted. Please let the people choose on this very important matter. Let it be written that I oppose SB1!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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From: [Marcia Harris](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Testimony In Opposition to SB1 related to "equal Rights"
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 2:12:19 PM

October 26, 2013

To: Senate Judiciary & Labor Committee
From: Marcia R Peterson-Harris
Re: Testimony in OPOSITION to SB1, relating to "Equal Rights"
Hearing Day & Date: Monday, Oct. 28th
Hearing Time and Place: 10:30am in the Hawaii State Capitol Auditorium

To: Chair, Senator Clayton Hee, Vice Chair, Senator Maile S. L. Shimabukuro and members of the Senate Judiciary & Labor Committee

I am writing in strong opposition to Bill SB 1. I am asking that you let the people decide.. Let the people's voices be heard! I still remember - [of the people, by the people, for the people!](#) In 1998 the ballot question to voters was "Shall the Constitution of the State of Hawaii be amended to specify that the Legislature shall have the power to reserve marriage to opposite sex couples?"

The people decided in 1998, the people must decide today. We did not give the Legislatures the power to [re-define](#) marriage, rather, reserve it for opposite sex couples only. It is very important that our voices be heard now.

We are facing the same sex marriage issue AGAIN. Civil Unions was not what the LGBT Movement/Constituents wanted in the first place. I was here in 2009 when LGBT began the process of demanding their rights. I listened while most LGBT supporter insisted that they had no interest in marriage. One after the other asserted repeatedly that all they wanted was EQUAL RIGHTS for their partners. All they wanted was for their partnerships to be sanctioned. 2010 the same issue was re-addressed. LGBT was granted their request with the assistance of Governor Abercrombie. That should have been the end of this matter for you as Legislatures and us as tax paying constituents. They had apparently won what they had requested. Even though the voice of the people was still one of opposition, LGBT had their victory.

I support getting along with mutual respect for our neighbor. I support respect of individuals. . I believe that even those who oppose the lifestyle of homosexuality have been tolerant of individuals choice to co- habitat with their choice of a partner without jeopardizing future securities. Under the guise of civil rights this issue has been shrouded to pull on the heart string of the ignorant, the uniformed ,the indifferent and those who simply believe we should just all get along.

It has been obvious from the beginning that there is very limited respect for the Christian perspective, in this matter. If we are not going to allow our boundaries to be influenced by a spiritual source, may I appeal to your conscience of wisdom and discretion?

For our elected officials to ignore the voice of the people they are supposed to represent is reprehensible!

Wisdom and discretion must kick in at some point in our decision-making or we will find ourselves without boundaries, without restraint in any areas of life and thereby victims of complete chaos. For soon, more reckless behaviors, more ratings for equality because of the confusion of what is a 'right' or what is 'civil.' Such schools of thought and mind sets such as this proposed legislation is unfathomable in a rational mind.

I strongly oppose this legislation as well as the proposed special session to promote passage of this bill. I pray that each of you will take note of the progression that has taken place and that will take place if you allow passage. Without boundaries, who will be next, bi-sexuals, pedophilia, bestiality? Who else will scream for their right to express themselves in the face of this state because they assert that they were "born that way."

1998-2013 have been a clear picture to me of a masterfully orchestrated agenda. This process that was intended to be civil and a fair exchange of reasonable individuals, we have been strategically and intentionally lied to, manipulated and seduced into disrespecting an institution that has always been respected and honored as a bedrock of our society-Marriage between one man and one woman.....Let the people of the society that we all live in decide whether those boundaries should no longer be respected or valued.

Your children, grand-children and mine will grow up in a nation that has no respect for order. You will leave a legacy of re-defining the family structure-Yes, but at the risk of society that has no respect for its elected officials and their willingness to reflect the voice of the people. Let the people decide and regain the trust and confidence of the people you have been elected to serve.

Because of Grace 
Evangelist Marcia R.P. Harris
(808)676-9712

Clayton Hee, Chair

10/28/13

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process.

I am particularly concerned that the religious exemption clauses are so sparse. Priest, pastors and churches are exempted under only very limited circumstances. There is no exemption for religious organizations, charities or fraternal societies, nor are there any exemptions for individuals. I am concerned that my First Amendment rights be protected in the process.

On a personal note, my 7-year old son shared his view on the same sex marriage bill; he stated: "I wish they don't make it pass, because I don't want to marry the same sex." His sharing really gripped my heart and sadden me to think at such a young age is tormented of legalizing "same sex marriage". How many children or let alone maybe even adults will be as bold to share their heart felt views. This bill would be robbing the innocence of our children, grandchildren and all future generations. With such an amendment, again, our freedom of rights under the First Amendment established by our founding forefathers of this great nation will no longer hold it's validity. Has our state government really studied the what the repercussions of passing this bill would have on our judiciary systems with many law suits to follow and the impact of all people now and future generations, and not just with one group? The state of Massachusetts and Canada, who has passed this bill, has had many avoidable lawsuits, with the rights of innocent citizens living under the rights of the First Amendment, were purged and harassed for trying to defend themselves. Please, please, please, do further research so that our freedoms will not be taken away and our children and future generations will live in righteousness as in our state motto: *Ua Mau ke Ea o Ka Aina i ka Pono* - "The life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness" and that it be sustained throughout time.

Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide.

Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Margaret E. W. Kaya

Margaret E. W. Kaya
95-331 Mahapili Ct #168, Mililani, HI 96789
808-781-5700

From: [Mary Los Banos](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB1 RELATING TO EQUALITY
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 1:26:00 PM

Dear Clayton Hee, Honorable Chairman and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

I am Mary Los Banos, the founder and president of The Children's House in Pearl City. The Children's House has been caring for the children of Hawaii for forty eight years. We accept all children that apply without testing the child or evaluating the parental background as long as space is available. Our entrance level is preschool and are children may remain with us and graduate at the sixth grade level. We have children from a variety of cultural and economic backgrounds, some lower income families receiving scholarships from numerous community sources.

I am deeply opposed to SBL (same sex marriage) for the emotional confusion it would create in our children. I have firsthand experience. Some years ago two women, one being the birth mother of a child attending our preschool, came to my office, for at that time I was the principal. They wanted to discuss our teaching on families in their child's classroom. They stated, "We have told our son that he never had a father and we want the school to tell him the same."

I respectfully stated, "It is a natural law that each of us has biological parents, one male and one female." They did not argue for they knew their son was receiving loving care. He was a lovely little boy, physically well cared for and appeared happy. We did not adjust any of our teaching about families and as I recall he remained with us for some time. I was very concerned about the confusion, self-identity, security, and the response of his peers especially as he grew older.

I see many problems for children of divorced and single parents and such a law would bring one more area of pain and confusion for our children. The children are our hope for the future, please do not bring future pain and suffering on our children. It would not only impact a child in a same sex marriage arrangement but it would be confusing to all children in relating to their friends and growing into maturity and becoming community leaders.

I beg you for the sake of our children, to vote NO on this same sex marriage bill.

Sincerely,

Mary Los Banos, President

The Children's House

From: rsole68750@aol.com
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 12:07:28 AM

Clayton Hee, Char
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: Testimony to SB 1 relating to equality

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor;

My name is Mary Sole. I live at 98-2032 Kikala Street in Aiea. I oppose same sex marriage.

This special session circumvents the democratic process. First you & your colleagues will vote on whether same sex marriage will be the law of our land or not. And, secondly a decision of this magnitude should not be made in the time allotted for this bill to become law. It is not pono. It is not right. The democratic process is being ignored. It is being pushed to the side. Shouldn't we let the people decide on this very highly controversial issue, same sex marriage? We are the people, registered voters who have elected our political officials into their offices, such as you, Honorable Chair & members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor.

And, in the same way that we have voted those in office, shouldn't we also decide on such a highly charged issue? This would be pono! This would be right! Let the registered voters, here in Hawaii decide on whether same sex marriage should be here in our island home or not!

However if the special session would go on as planned, then the wording concerning religious exemption under this section, #572-G Religious organizations and facilities; liability exemption under certain circumstances of this bill should be made stronger. As it now written, it does not fully protect Hawaii's clergyman. They should be very well protected for they serve a vital part in our community.

LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE!!!

LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE!!!

LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE!!!

Mahalo for reading my testimony.

Respectfully,
Mary Sole
10.26.13

Testimony in Opposition to SB 1 Relating to Equality

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

My name is Mary Waialeale

My address is 500 University Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96826

I am a registered voter.

Same sex marriage should not be passed in a special session because:

- 1) A 5 day session is not enough time to discuss the most controversial issue of our time.
- 2) No amendments can be made to legislation. As a result, true democracy is made mockery of.
- 3) Hawaii is the only state rushing into special session as a result of the Supreme Court decision. If the need was truly dire, then why haven't the other 34 states that do not permit ssm done so?
- 4) A "yes" vote during the special session is a "no" vote to democracy because the voices of the people are not heard.
- 5) Why not let the people vote? In 1998 the people believed they voted on this issue and they should be the ones consulted again.
- 6) We voted you into office to respect fundamental democratic principles. Let the people vote.

I am against the bill because:

- 7) Anything less than preserving the traditional definition of marriage creates an imprecise relationship between the state and my marriage. The fact is that words have meaning. The elevation of same-sex marriage to that of traditional marriage, combined with the use of random nomenclature to designate parties in same-sex marriage, absorbs and reduces time-honored roles of husbands and wives into a morass of meaningless linguistic jargon.
- 8) If marriage is a civil right for all, then what is to stop other types of non-traditional relationships? Why not permit incestuous and polygamous marriages? Why not allow marriages between adults and children? How about nuptials between people and animals? Will the age of tolerance permit Muslim men to take multiple wives while Muslim women are restricted to one husband? These horrific possibilities destroy the nature of marriage as a sacred union between a man and a woman.

On a personal note – how many of you have grandchildren? What will you explain to your grandchild when he shares w/ you that he has a friend whose parents are both men and he says they're married, and that you passed this into law, and he asks you how they make babies?

From: [Matilda Ann Harris](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 11:16:24 AM

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

I say NO to same sex marriage! And I believe it should be up to the people (voters) not the Government!

Didn't we vote on this already? Stop being bullies trying to force us to accept something that will destroy our state!

God's way, the right way, the only way!

Matilda Harris

Psalm 37:4 Delight yourself also in the Lord,
And He shall give you the desires of your heart.

Mernette Cardejon
45 Hialoa St.
Honolulu, HI 96817

October 24, 2013

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
The Honorable Maile S.L. Shimabukuro Vice Chair
Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Hearing Date: Monday, October 28, 2013 at 10:30am
I will not be present to deliver my testimony

Re: In Opposition to S.B. 1, The Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013

Dear Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

My name is Mernette Cardejon and I am opposed to S. B. 1, The Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013. I am opposed to this bill for two reasons.

First, the special legislative session will not allow adequate time for discussion and not provide an opportunity for an amendment. Re-defining marriage will not just affect the federal tax status but it will affect the basic unit of society, the family. This re-organization of the family will have long lasting effects that deserve thorough research and thoughtful discussion. The Super Ferry did not receive the proper research and discussion and caused a huge failure and expense to the state. The people of Hawaii deserve to have the time for research and consideration on an issue that would affect them.

Second, and simply put there is no need for this law. Civil Unions became law in the state of Hawaii on January 1, 2012. Civil Unions provide Family Rights, Medical and Death related rights, as well as state tax rights. This venue already provides rights for any couple regardless of sexual orientation if they choose to enter into a Civil Union. Civil Unions provide legal rights without infringing on any first amendment rights of others to the free exercise of religion. There is simply no need to re-create the "wheel".

In closing, I oppose S.B.1 because the special session does not provide adequate time to address the issue and Civil Unions already provide couples legal rights.

Thank you,
Mernette Cardejon

From: [Michael McGuire](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 9:01:33 PM

Clayton Hee, Chair
10/26/13

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am a registered voter and I'm opposed to the special session and the bill to legalize same-sex marriage.

The tactics by this government to keep the bill out of regular session, restrict amendments, and to limit public testimony is evidence that the government is not interested in the will of the people. This Special session amounts to a state imposed redefinition of marriage that lacks a clear substantive state interest. It amounts to an imposed a "new morality" on the people of Hawaii while threatening the First Amendment rights of tens of thousands.

Whatever your personal beliefs are on this matter, I urge you to allow the people to decide this issue.

Respectfully,

Michael B. McGuire

91-332 Hoalauna Place

Ewa Beach, HI

808 387-7787

To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Strong Opposition of Bill SB1
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 8:02:15 PM

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hearing Date/Time: Monday, October 28, 2013, 10:30 a.m.
Place: Capitol Auditorium
Re: Strong Opposition of SB1

Dear Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am writing to voice my opposition to Bill SB1.

I am asking you to allow the people to decide on the issue of marriage as I believe the legislature is going against the will of the people. I support equality for all including the rights of conscience and religious freedom, which I ask you to respect as our elected leaders.

I am opposed to the most contentious social issue in our history being decided virtually in one week and ask that you please uphold the principles of democracy and the democratic process which are being disregarded in this special session.

This bill should be given due process during the regular session where it can properly be vetted and examined as all other bills. The people who elected you to serve as their voices should have a say in public policy that will forever obliterate thousand of years of indigenous and non-native culture, customs and traditions. Your "yes" vote in special session is clearly a NO vote to democracy!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Michelle H Kealohanui
Waimanalo, HI 96795

October 27, 2013

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Re: Bill #SB1
Hawaii State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Testimony in Opposition of Proposed Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013

I am writing in **opposition** to the proposed Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013 that will be discussed in your Special Legislative Session beginning on October 28, 2013.

According to an article on page A-13 of the September 20 edition of the Wall Street Journal, same-sex marriage legislation has had a devastating impact on citizens who decline to serve same-sex ceremonies due to religious conflicts. For example:

- A florist in Richland, Washington, was sued by the State Attorney General and the American Civil Liberties Union.
 - A Christian couple that owns a bakery in Gresham, Oregon closed their shop because the State launched an investigation into their religious objections.
 - The New Mexico Supreme Court upheld a \$6,637 fine against Elane Photography, stating that being “compelled by law to compromise the very religious beliefs that inspire their lives” was “the price of citizenship.”
 - Many County recorders, magistrates, judges, town clerks, and justices of the peace in Iowa, Massachusetts, and New York have resigned because they were told that refusing to perform services for same-sex couples will result in criminal prosecutions for misdemeanors or other sanctions.

This legislation will have little effect on the civil rights of the estimated 5% of Hawaii's residents who identify themselves as gay or lesbian, because they can travel to any one of the fourteen states or the District of Columbia, which have adopted same-sex marriage legislation, to get married. However, it will have a catastrophic effect on the First Amendment rights of the 95% of Hawaii's residents who identify themselves as religious.

For these reasons, I humbly request that you **VOTE IN OPPOSITION** to Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013.

Sincerely,

Aaron Moke Stephens
Keaau, HI 96749

From: [moses kealamakia](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Testimony For Marriage Bill
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 5:51:46 AM

Hello,

My name is Moses Kealamakia Jr. I am a husband, and father. I am also of part Hawaiian ancestry, which means I am related by blood to a lot of kamaaina people here in the state.

My testimony comes in the form of questions.

Questions for our politicians

Didn't the majority of Hawaii vote to say that the definition of marriage is between a man and a woman? What will our state legislature say to the nearly 70% people who opposed same sex marriage in 1998?

Did any of our current lawmakers vote at that time to agree that marriage was between a male and female? If so, why are you changing?

Have you thought about the long-term consequences?

What is to be said about families in the future?

Are we choosing erotic liberty over religious, moral liberty?

Are we choosing to sacrifice our sacred religious liberty so that our state may have more income generated by marriage fees, and all that is associated with that?

Are we choosing to throw away the natural family, natural marriage, integrity of sexuality within marriage alone, and hope for human flourishing?

Why is this bill being rushed?

Doesn't every child deserve to be raised by a good father and mother? If so, why break down the traditional family?

Are our elected politicians following the will of their constituents?

I close with two phrases.

1. It was the thinker Descartes who coined the phrase, "Cogito Ergo Sum" , which

translates to - I think therefore I am. He taught that we cannot trust the things that come to us through our senses. Instead, we must use rational thinking to sort things out. I ask, have you thought out the consequences? Have you seen the data about what happened to Massachusetts because they allowed same sex marriage? Can you live with that?

2. The last comes from the Holy Scriptures in the Book of Isaiah chapter 5. I am paraphrasing when I say, " Woe unto them that call good bad, and bad, good, who put darkness for light, and light for darkness, who put sweet for bitter, and bitter for sweet."

Can you live with that?

From: [Nancy Vidaña](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Testimony SB1 - 10/18/13, 10:30 a.m - Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 11:36:36 AM

I am writing to the Committee on Judiciary and Labor, regarding the Notice of Hearing scheduled for Monday, 10/28/13 at 10:30 a.m., regarding SB1 RELATING TO EQUAL RIGHTS.

My testimony is to speak against this measure passing. I believe that the long-standing history and culture of marriage being designated specifically and only between one man and one woman should not be changed to include same-sex couples. I believe same-sex marriage would be a major change to an institution that exists in many cultures for good reason, and I believe that this change would be harmful to our state and community as a whole, and to children of future generations causing confusion and upheaval. I also believe, that if this issue of consequence was brought to a vote to the people of Hawaii presently, that same-sex marriage would not be passed by the majority of voters. I disagree with the special session which has been pushed forward by our Governor, without allowing the people of Hawaii to vote on the issue.

Nancy Vidana
Big Island of Hawaii

From: [Naomi Takai](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: SB 1
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 10:44:21 PM

25 October 2013

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Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
RE: Testimony in Opposition to SB 1 Relating to Equality

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

Thank you for allowing my testimony against SB1 be heard.

My name is Naomi Takai, District 35 Precinct 04.

My initial concern is why this special session was called by the Governor. Isn't special sessions called for the reason of emergencies? And why did he use his authority to unilaterally call for this special session?

If the need for a special session is an **emergency** (a life or death situation) as a result of the Supreme Court's decision on the Defense of Marriage Act, why haven't the other 30+ states that do not allow same sex marriage follow suit?

I humbly ask for the legislative body to have the Governor rescind the proclamation ordering a special session and bring it to the people of Hawaii to have the privilege of voicing their choice at the polls. The people of Hawaii voted you into office holding our trust and faith to uphold the democratic process. Let's do it the right way. Bring it to a vote to the people and may it rest in peace.

Naomi Takai
94-938 Lumihohu Street
Waipahu, HI 96797

From: [Nathan Cunningham](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Marriage Equity Bill
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 6:16:31 PM

Aloha!

I am extremely opposed to the marriage equity bill. I fear that redefining marriage will bring dangers and problems to the state of Hawaii more than we could comprehend. With that being said, I understand that popular public opinion is to pass this law, so I understand your pressure of wanting this passed. However, I would feel it a complete injustice to my liberty as a person to not include some more provisions into the law. There NEEDS to be provisions that a religious person who, out of his or her own personal convictions, does not want to participate in same sex marriage (photographers, venues), should not have to participate. They should not fear being sued for practicing their own personal religious beliefs. I understand that the law protects clergy from performing the ceremony, but there is SO MUCH MORE that needs to be protected and I would encourage all the representatives to include more provisions into the law. There needs to be more protection for people who do not feel that this is right. If same-sex couples want to be married, fine. But do not make me participate in any way shape or form, or instill in me fear of being sued. I trust that you will make the appropriate changes.

Mahalo,

Nathan Cunningham

From: [John Henry](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Strong OPPOSITION AGAINST SB1
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 9:43:09 AM

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hearing Date/Time: Monday, October 28, 2013, 10:30 a.m.
Place:Capitol Auditorium
Re: Strong OPPOSITION AGAINST SB1, Relating to Equal Rights

Dear Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am writing in Strong OPPOSITION AGAINST SB1

This bill was erode the basic foundation of families and cause moral decay among our Ohana. History will teach of the Nations that fell due to the lack of Morals. This is not a right, but a changing of the laws of Nature.

John Henry
59A Kanoa St.
Wailuku, HI 96793

From: [Carol Stenger](#)
To: [Rep. Mele Carroll](#)
Subject: Against SB1
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 9:40:15 AM

To All Parties involved,
I wish to inform you that I and my family are **AGAINST** the proposed same-sex marriage Bill. The repercussions will disintegrate our society. You wouldn't even exist if a man and woman did not come together in love.

Thank you for all the other work you do for the betterment of the larger picture of our society.

Sincerely,
Carol

From: akemichan78@aol.com
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: I am AGAINST SB#1
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 11:32:25 PM

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Kristin. I was born and raised in Hawaii, and I am a registered voter in the state of Hawaii. I am a Christian, a wife and a mother. I graduated from high school and college here in Hawaii. I am disheartened that our "leader" has chosen to blindly jump on the bandwagon of trying to legalize same-sex marriage here in Hawaii...just because all the other states are doing it and it "seems" like the right thing to do.

I submit this testimony to you, that I am AGAINST same sex marriage being legalized in a short 5 day special session. Just because our governor "feels" right about this issue, does not mean that the people of Hawaii feel likewise. Let the people's voices be heard.

The way this bill was written, while with good intent to "protect" clergy from performing a marriage ceremony, the religious freedom of our churches are still being violated. I don't like how this bill is worded. All churches, and church buildings should be exempt from not only performing a same sex ceremony, but holding a reception etc PERIOD. There should be no clause or stipulation as to whether the building is "only for member use" etc. It needs to be CLEARLY stated that any church and church building can DENY access to its building to same sex couples. The state does NOT have the right to open doors of conflict in this matter. Let the churches, and church buildings be 100% exempt from anything to do with same sex marriages free and clear...no stipulation, no clauses that we have to meet all 3 criteria etc. Churches don't want same sex marriage, so don't make us meet criteria in order to deny it.

I also don't agree that personal and family businesses should be able to be sued if they turn down a same-sex couple from their business. If a person believes that same sex marriage is wrong, and they want to turn away business, they should have that right. Just as restaurants reserve the right to deny service to anyone---private business should have that same right, no questions asked. It's not right for government to force businesses to go against their personal beliefs and force them to serve same sex couples in fear of being sued. All businesses should have the RIGHT to REFUSE business to anyone they feel they cannot work with. Give them that right to choose who they want to serve, and not go against their moral belief.

On top of all this, no one and I mean no one has addressed how this bill will affect public education. Everyone pushes that question on to somebody else. As a mother, I should know BEFORE HAND how this bill will affect public education. This is not a bill we pass just because "all the other states are doing it" and then find out afterwards what the repercussions are. These issues need to be addressed BEFORE the bill is passed so that every parent knows exactly how this bill will affect public education. Can teachers cross dress to work? Can transgender kids use the bathroom of their choice? Will there be books allowed that portray 2 fathers or 2 mothers as "normal"? What will be taught? Will parents who don't believe in same sex marriage have the RIGHT to have their child removed from class when these things are taught? Remember, it's MY job to teach my children values and morals, NOT YOURS. The DOE systems can barely get the children of Hawaii to pass their standardized tests, so don't go wasting time teaching about same sex marriage--focus on the curriculum standards not which VALUES and MORALS you feel like teaching my children. That's what church is for. But realistically speaking, how will this bill affect education? LET US KNOW NOW...NOT LATER. We want answers now BEFORE any bill is randomly passed because "all the other states are doing it" or because "it feels like the right thing to do".

By passing this bill, you are infringing on religious freedom. Leave all churches exempt from anything to

do with same sex marriage PERIOD. Address our concerns regarding public education NOW. Don't pass this bill in a hasty, irresponsible 5 day special session. Spell everything out (the expectations and consequences of this bill passing) for the churches, for the education system, for the public in black and white, then let us study this issue and let the people decide. Present this to us with clear understanding of the pros and cons of this bill passing and then put it to a vote.

Stop lying by saying nothing will change, because by changing the definition of marriage, everything will be changing. If nothing will change by passing this bill, then don't pass it. You know very well that things will change by passing this bill. Religious freedom will be stepped on, public education will change--by teaching my children "the new society's morals"--or lack of it, as I see it.

By passing this bill in a hasty and short 5 day special session is selfish of you. Present the facts clearly, and let us decide how we want the future of Hawaii to be. Don't let "power" get to your head. Give us, the voters of Hawaii, the right to decide the future.

Thank you,
Kristin

From: [Bobbie](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Oppose SB1
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 11:09:55 PM

Please accept this testimonial regarding that we oppose this bill. We choose to allow the people to vote.
Respectfully submitted, Eduardo Luna and Barbara Luna
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jolene Cardenas](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: My testimony against Senate Bill 1
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 9:08:52 PM

dear Committee on Judiciary and Labor members,

It is my personal belief that the legalization of same-sex marriage will have destructive consequences not only for us Hawaii residents living today, but especially for the next generations to come. By forcing this same-sex marriage legalization bill (SB1 at

http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/splsession2013b/SB1_.pdf

down my throat and those of others who have already clearly opposed it earlier, I believe that our right to freedom of speech is being openly and completely violated and that our right to define what constitutes marriage is being twisted out of context in order to fit your personal agendas and beliefs. This, to me, is a direct slap in the face that has the potential to create an environment of distrust towards those like you folks who are supposed to represent our values and see to it that they are reflected in the laws governing the state, including those covering the definition of marriage.

I have a few questions I want all of you to consider when you contemplate the option of forcibly passing this same-sex marriage legalization bill:

- 1) Since God had originally intended marriage to be between a man and a woman (according to Genesis chapter 1) and since a child can be conceived only when sperm fertilizes eggs in a womb and form a baby, how can two men or two women conceive and bring a child in to this world? How would this "couple" be able to raise him or her up in an environment that has already been defined by heterosexual marriage values?
- 2) I believe that this bill is not about offering the same financial benefits to both gay and heterosexual-married couples as it is about pushing the values of the gay community down our throats. The last bill I and fellow opponents had opposed had the words "civil union" in it, not "gay marriage" as it seems to be this time around. Since the Bible defines marriage as being between one man and one woman and treats the union as one flesh once they are joined together in matrimony, why has the wording of this bill been changed in order to stealthily but forcefully push same-sex couples' agendas down our throats? Would any of you, in your right mind, marry a loved one who is interested in marrying someone else of the same gender should you yourselves happen to also be opponents of this bill?
- 3) How do you suppose a child who comes from a same-sex union would have to explain to his or her peers who their Mommy and Daddy is? And when he or she gets laughed at by heterosexual-oriented peers or snubbed by equally heterosexual-oriented teachers, how much verbal abuse do you suppose this child would be able to take before he or she snaps and then possibly gets driven to lash out at them in violent

anger? When you consider the outbreak of violence that had recently occurred in public schools in the Mainland and the motives many of those young perpetrators had behind their shootings and fights, has it ever occurred to you that by legalizing this same-sex marriage bill, such kids from these unnatural homes could easily use this as grounds for attack during an otherwise typical schoolday right here in Hawaii?

I urge all of you to please don't allow this same sex marriage legalization bill to become a law. Remember: The passing of this bill and the consequences it brings will live with you and the next generation in your own families—and those of millions of others--for the rest of your lives. The power you folks exercise in passing or opposing this bill will affect everyone in the entire state who are for the traditional and Biblical definition of marriage. Take a stand for what's right and vote according to your folks' God-given conscience, which I truly believe knows what's good and what's evil.

Sincerely,
Jolene

From: [Rob and Suzi Daley](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Proposed bill on same sex marriage
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 8:01:47 PM

It is my understanding that 34 states do not approve of this arrangement and none of them are rushing to push the agenda down the throats of their citizens. The governor does not have the legal right to write bills, that is for the legislative branch. There are states close by if couples wish to marry (specifically California and Washington). The supreme court has stated that marriage is NOT a right and should not be considered so. Do not pass this bill without the people of Hawaii having a choice and an opportunity to vote on something such as this that affects so many. Stop bill SB1.

From: [Artwear Creations](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: STRONG OPPOSITION TO BILL SB1
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 7:59:31 PM

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hearing Date/Time: Monday, October 28, 2013, 10:30 a.m.
Place: Capitol Auditorium
Re: Strong Opposition of SB1

Dear Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am writing to voice my opposition to Bill SB1.

I am asking you to allow the people to decide on the issue of marriage as I believe the legislature is going against the will of the people. I support equality for all including the rights of conscience and religious freedom, which I ask you to respect as our elected leaders.

I am opposed to the most contentious social issue in our history being decided virtually in one week and ask that you please uphold the principles of democracy and the democratic process which are being disregarded in this special session.

This bill should be given due process during the regular session where it can properly be vetted and examined as all other bills. The people who elected you to serve as their voices should have a say in public policy that will forever obliterate thousand of years of indigenous and non-native culture, customs and traditions. Your "yes" vote in special session is clearly a NO vote to democracy!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Pablo Penaloza
Kailua Kona, Hawaii Island, Hawaii, 96740

From: [Eunice Summers](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Against passing Same-sex marriage as a law
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 7:54:14 PM

Aloha,

I am writing this email to submit my testimony against same-sex marriage.

Passing same-sex marriage as a law will not only ruin what our forefathers stood for (believing in biblical teachings) but also brainwash our keiki. We cannot let a small group of people who are self-focused on individualism who want to live a life style they see fit while completely disregard what traditional marriage and family is. These people use "equal rights" as a way to get what they want - tax and medical benefits - while not willing to respect and follow traditional marriage.

This issue has nothing to do with equal rights. Let's all face it, not everything has equal rights. I am a woman and therefore my salary is automatically lower than men who work in the same professional field. Do I sue my employer because I do not receive the equal rights I deserve? No, and nor do I think this has anything to do with "equal rights" because this is a known trend - women's pay tends to be lower than men's when comparing same professions.

All men and women are created equal, there is no denial about it. However, we cannot let a small group of people who disregard morality to uproot the most sacred 'a man and a woman' marriage.

Passing this as a law will bring further confusion to our younger generations. Once this law is passed, school curriculum will be altered to include same-sex material and our keiki will be taught that same-sex dating and marriage is okay. Won't this be a form of brainwashing to our keiki when our keiki may not be gays or lesbians? Can we all honestly think traditional marriage is a thing of a past?

Passing same-sex marriage as a law will further persecute churches who believe in and teach authentic biblical teachings because churches can be sued by same-sex couples who don't get their way of wanting to marry in a church that stands on its ground believing marriage is between a man and woman. Even though many say churches will be exempt from this law, there is no guarantee that same-sex couples won't attempt to get their way by persecuting churches.

Please do what is right for the majority of the people in Hawaii who treasure and value the sacred marriage of a man and a woman. Please do not let a small group of people ruin the rest of the folks in Hawaii. This issue has nothing to do with "equal rights". This is a deceit from a small group of people who want to chisel away morality and mess up our younger generations. This small group of people don't care about the consequences they may create because they focus nothing but themselves.

Sincerely,
Eunice Summers

From: [Alissa](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Special Session
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 7:04:06 PM

Alissa Altmann
PO Box 15079
Honolulu, HI 96830

aliholdmann@gmail.com

Committee on Judicial and Labor SB 1 - October 28, 2013 at 10:30 AM.

Subject: Special Session on Same-Gender Marriage

Dear Representatives:

Thank you for your commitment to serve and represent the people of Hawaii. I truly appreciate that you have committed yourself to such an important calling in life. As Representatives for the people, I ask you to consider and make known among your peers my position on a very important issue. I urge you to vote “no” to legalizing same-gender marriage during the special legislative session that has been called by Governor Abercrombie on October 28, 2013.

My primary concern is the inherent risk that the law would have on my First Amendment rights, to express my freedom of religion, as well as the impact that it would likely have on my church community and other religious organizations. The bill currently features language intended to provide religious exemptions to protect churches from being forced to perform same-gender marriages that are in direct conflict with their beliefs. However, the religious exemptions will not protect all churches in Hawaii. Further, if forced, it can lead to lengthy and costly lawsuits that could lead some churches to eventually close down due to financial costs. This would end important community programs that help feed the hungry and provide a wide range of support to Hawaii residents in need.

Personally, I also stand to lose the right to express my religious views on traditional marriage between one man and one woman, whether in the workplace or in public, just as others are able to express their differing views.

I believe that this decision is one that should be made by the people of the State of Hawaii, as was done in 1998 when it was voted on as a constitutional amendment. I strongly feel that this special session of the legislature does not provide an adequate opportunity for people to voice their opinions.

However, if the people of Hawaii will not be given the opportunity to vote on this issue, I ask you to appeal to your fellow lawmakers to take the time necessary to learn more and to also

properly revise this bill in order to ensure that no one will lose their existing right to express their religious beliefs as originally granted to all Americans, this also includes protection of families rights with regard to future ramifications within our education systems pertaining to same sex education. There are too many homes across our islands that are wrought with issues, many, I truly believe stem from broken homes. We need to stand on the foundation of "marriage," building our homes, not reconstructing the walls. The people of Hawaii have given special rights to the LGBT community within the civil union law. Please do not forsake the people of the islands with quick decisions, five days of deliberations is not enough time spent on such an important topic! We all need more time to learn more, to make better decisions for ALL groups concerned with this discussion.

I trust that you will ensure that these concerns are heard during the special session.

Thank you so much for your careful consideration of this matter.

Yours truly,
Alissa Altmann

From: [Linda Akinaka](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Same Sex Marriage Legislation
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 6:36:57 PM

Aloha,

I am requesting that you vote against legalizing same sex marriage here in Hawaii. I believe that traditional marriage is the basis for the foundation of the family, society and our nation. All efforts should be made to preserve and encourage the traditional family and prevent further undermining of marriage and family in our society. Tax exemptions and social security benefits have been endorsed to facilitate those who wish to raise a family and now claims are being made that any type of relationship is entitled to these benefits. If you wish to entitle all types of relationships to these benefits, do it without changing the definition and purpose of marriage.

A traditional family has been the basis for Judeo -Christian society since recorded time. It has been the basis for our nation as well. There are biological, physiological and psychological differences between a man and a woman. The success of our society is dependent upon children being raised in a nurturing family with both a father and a mother whose gender differences compliment each other and who are able to procreate.

Society's problems have increased as families are challenged with increasing sexual permissiveness, single parent families, and mothers working outside of the home. By calling a same sex union "marriage" through legislation, further damage will be done as we are forced to submit to regulations that are against our conscience. The State then becomes an enforcer and a promoter of same sex marriage.

As a nation and state we have tried to encourage families by providing benefits to help families as they raise children and perpetuate our society. Same sex partners are unable to have children themselves so it seems that equality in this area is not possible.

We voted as a State to define marriage as between a man and a woman. I think it is not right that a few legislators can change that vote.

I thank you for your consideration and vote against the Same Sex Marriage bill.

Linda Akinaka

4101 Aliikoa Place

Haiku, HI 96708

808-572-2448

From: [Barbara Ferraro](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY mailed-by: gmail.com
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 6:29:25 PM

Karl Rhoads, Chair
House Judiciary Committee

Sylvia Luke, Chair
House Finance Committee

Dear Honorable Chairs Rhoads and Luke and Members of the House Judiciary and Finance Committees:

Concerned Women for America of Hawaii does not support S.B. NO. 1 for the following reasons:

1. Hawaii already has a Civil Union Law which currently grants rights to same-sex couples, not only for Hawaii benefits, but for federal benefits, which is not being pointed out in all the news items.
2. The U. S. Supreme Court did not rule that DOMA was unconstitutional, which is what is being incorrectly stated by many here in Hawaii. Therefore, those in a same-sex union in Hawaii would still be allowed to receive federal benefits without requiring them to have their union solemnized.
3. Passing this legislation would be a detriment and a liability for Hawaii, because it would open up doors to allow more intrusion in to our public and private lives as evidenced in those states that have legalized same-sex "marriage," such as California, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maryland, Maine, Delaware, Rhode Island, Minnesota, Iowa, and New York. Those states which have already legalized same-sex "marriage" are showing a host of problems relating to this issue, affecting children for the most part, where they are being taught values that their parents do not accept based upon their religious beliefs.
4. There has not been sufficient time for this bill to be reviewed for its impact as our State Constitution requires. This could have easily waited until our regular session, which will begin in about two months.
5. Same-sex "marriage" will be taught in the schools as an acceptable type of marriage, which comes against the religious beliefs of the majority of Hawaii's residents; it is already being done in the states that have legalized same-sex "marriage."

6. The reason given — that by legalizing same-sex "marriage" Hawaii will be able to generate more income because same-sex couples will be suddenly flocking to Hawaii to get married in such a romantic spot — is not very good justification for passing such legislation as S.B. No. 1.

7. This bill should not be passed simply to cater to only **2%** of the population instead of listening to the other **98%**, especially when an election year is just around the corner.

8. The rush to get this bill through before the end of the year has no real justification. There has not been a reasonable enough answer given by Governor Abercrombie as to why this bill cannot wait until the regular session begins in January. He talks about being able to give same-sex couples tax breaks, when they can receive them easily through a civil union which Hawaii already has, as stated above.

9. When it comes to equality, this legislation should rightfully be brought before the voters of Hawaii, so that they can have an equal opportunity to once again vote on this issue, as they did in 1998, when they thought that vote settled it once and for all.

10. When Governor Abercrombie first called for this Special Session, he said it was just to decide upon this one piece of legislation, because it was important to get it passed before the end of the year. Now there are several other bills that are going to be brought before this Special Session, which will not give enough time for just this one piece of legislation; the Special Session is now expected to last 10 days instead of the original five days.

11. Even before a vote has been taken, Governor Abercrombie is already declaring that he expects this legislation to pass, by putting a date on it as to when he expects it to become law, and he is already preparing the system for a date of November 18, according to news reports.

This testimony is respectfully submitted by

Barbara J Ferraro
Hawaii State Director
Concerned Women for America
PO Box 10732

Hilo, HI 96721-5732
(808)965-9834
<http://hawaii.cwfa.org>

If you do not wish to receive further messages from me, please reply and just type
"Remove."

"SILENCE IN THE FACE OF EVIL IS EVIL ITSELF; GOD WILL NOT HOLD US
GUILTY. NOT TO SPEAK IS TO SPEAK AND NOT TO ACT IS TO ACT."

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

The next time you are sending either a donation or your annual membership to CWA National, please consider making it a payment for CWA of Hawaii by sending a check made out to CWA, to P.O. Box 10732, Hilo, HI 96721 or by donating on line at: <http://hi.cwfa.org>. You will receive an acknowledgement of your payment.

From: [jodi](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: SB 1 Relating to Equal Rights
Date: Wednesday, October 23, 2013 6:36:29 PM

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing on behalf of my family in opposition of SB 1. I've read the bill and feel so dishearted as to how a minority of voices can out weigh the majority. The vote in 1998 was loud and clear by the people of Hawaii and yet you are still amending and crossing out the very foundation of what marriage is about. You and I did not bring marriage into existence, it was ordained by God. You and I supposedly, are to follow His Word. It has never changed over the thousands of years and I'm sure that it will not change just to satisfy a minority of people. God does not change for anyone and neither can you or I change His Word.

Again, my family and I are oppose to SB 1 and we will pray that you make the right decision for the future of Hawaii.

Sincerely,
Pastor Jodi Nahinu

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLWebTestimony](#)
Cc: pmacayan@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 10:50:51 AM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/24/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
patricia macayan	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I would like the opportunity to voice my decision regarding SSM

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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

From: [Patricia Tupou](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Bill SB 1
Date: Wednesday, October 23, 2013 7:11:16 PM

Dear Legislators,

I am against the passing of Bill SB 1. Marriage is a sacred, religious institution between a male and a female. People of the same sex should call their union something else other than marriage. Also the option that allows churches to opt out of marrying same sex couples or renting out their facilities to whoever demands it needs to be strengthened to protect the religious freedom of their members and beliefs, guaranteed under the constitution.

Patricia Tupou 808-293-8681

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLWebTestimony](#)
Cc: paulabeamer@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 6:37:57 AM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/25/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Paula Beamer	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Keep marriage between one man and one woman only please.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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

From: [Paula Oishi](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Pls allow the people to vote
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 5:58:55 AM

Dear Honorable Senators and Representatives,

May you kindly allow the people of Hawaii to vote on this bill, rather than voting in this special session amongst yourselves?

I voted for traditional marriage and know a lot of people who feel the same way. This is such a sensitive issue and I feel that we should not rush without letting the people vote on this issue.

May I humbly ask to please allow the people to make the decision? I know you will be amazed.

Thank you very much.

Paula Oishi

From: [Paulette Kurakazu](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: For the Senate Hearing SB1 Oct 28 2013
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 7:30:41 PM

Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

Please do not pass this bill.

Same sex marriage is destructive to the society, breaking the foundation of the true family. SB 1 as written protects rights of gays to marry, but where is the protection of religious rights, when a church is not exempt from prosecution if it is collecting revenues for the church property?

Submitted by,
Paulette Kurakazu
174 Uhu Street
Hilo, HI 96720

To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 9:51:42 AM

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

As a small business owner, I strongly oppose the legalization of same sex marriage. This bill will be a detriment to our society and will result in further horrible policies that cascade into our businesses, schools and communities. The people of Hawaii have voted against this in the past and continue to strongly oppose such a measure. Marriage is a covenant with God, not a "right" to be given or taken away by the state.

Peggy Geddis
317 Ainakula Road
Kula, HI 96790
808-876-1795

For the Senate hearing: Hearing on 10/28 @ 10:30am

Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am opposing Same Sex Marriage because of our heartfelt concern and compassion for the future of our state. I concern over the physical, mental and emotional problems that will beset those who choose the homosexual lifestyle, and I object to what this will do to our community, my children and to my traditional family life. Evidence clearly show that children must be raised in a traditional family environment to thrive and to grow.

In addition, legalizing Same Sex Marriage will have a negative effect on the liberties of religious freedom, as it relates to what the Bible holds as God's Truth and Christians' freedom to teach from it. Government should never define moral value and limit the teachings of faith group. Legalizing Same Sex Marriage will put a threat to religious freedom.

Therefore, please vote NO on any piece of the Same Sex Marriage bill!

Phyllis Young
909 Kahauloa Place
Honolulu, HI 96825
808-395-6694/808-389-6694

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Dear Honorable Chair,

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

The issue of same-sex marriage is a hotly debated subject in our state of Hawaii. Many of us know "good people" who are practicing the gay/lesbian lifestyle. In my opinion, this is the stumbling block for many. They look at the sampling of "good gay couples" and they say that these are good people and should be allowed to be married. Having a limited view stops one from looking further at the facts.

In 2011, Governor Abercrombie passed the Civil Unions Law so that sex couples could apply for a civil union which would give them all the benefits that married couples have. This Civil Union Law in Hawaii went into effect on January 1, 2012. As of May 2013, there have been only 916 couples who took advantage of this right to declare themselves as civil unions. This is not a large number and certainly not worthy of the expense and time of a special session. Governor Abercrombie has used the argument that the special session is necessary so that same-sex people here in Hawaii can be married and be able to receive the Federal benefits. But, what is not being said is that same-sex couples can go to any state that recognizes same-sex marriage, solemnize their marriage there, return to Hawaii—where same-sex marriage does not need to be approved—and still receive their Federal benefits.

So, if there were under 1,000 couples in Hawaii who took advantage of applying to be recognized as civil unions, why is there a special session going on now—attempting to rush each of you into making an unprecedented decision giving gays the right to marry? Is this really about equity of marriage or is this a guise to bring about the wishes of a small but vociferous minority of people—the impetus being propelled from those outside of Hawaii?

The facts show that the objective of LGBT, as we have witnessed from states such as Massachusetts and even in Toronto, Canada, is not to marry but to change family, church and society itself.

Please do acknowledge the fact that there is a large population of gays and lesbians who are extremely militant. This group of LGBT are at war with those who claim that marriage is only between a man and a woman. Know that this goal of legalizing same-sex marriage is but a stepping

stone to further their plan. They are at war with the churches and the faithful church-going people who still stand on the Word of God and its authority. This militant LGBT group is bright and they have charted their course well. They have already planted their seeds in our schools. They desire to capture the children of today and of future generations to shape their minds, attitudes and beliefs beginning at the early age of Kindergarten, increasing their dogma as children advance in age. Their very words in the "Little Black Book" published in Massachusetts say that this is a wonderful time to be gay because anything goes and there is no limit to the fun one can have with gay sex. They teach that the bible is irrelevant in this age. We have been told that in Canada teacher and students of faith are to park their faith at the school door.

Finally, in spite of what the Governor and the attorney general may tell you, churches are not protected by this bill. As long as there is a public accommodation clause in it, NO ONE is exempt. Please show me a church that does not open its doors to non-parishioners. Count the many churches that open its doors to the youth to use their school gymns, allow AA groups to gather for their very important weekly meetings. How many churches on this island participate in the Family Promise program that houses and feeds families giving them a hand up? This bill would also target Catholic Charities and other religious groups as well.

I urge you not to rush this extremely important issue at this special session. Vote "no" and let the people decide!

From: [Qi Hui Gao](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Opposition to SB 1 Relating to Equality
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 9:28:53 PM

For the Senate Hearing: Hearing on 10/28/13 at 10:30am
Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members on the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am writing to express that I am opposed to the SB 1 bill to legalize same-sex marriage. Please vote against this bill and let the people decide.

Same-sex marriage is not about tolerance. Same-sex homes are already tolerated in society. Same-sex marriage is about putting the legal stamp of approval on homosexuality and forcing its acceptance on citizens and our social, political, and commercial institution. It forces acceptance for businesses and individuals to recognize same-sex couples in all their benefits and activities.

Again, I ask you to vote against the SB 1 bill. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Qi Hui Gao

From: [raina](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Same Sex Marriage
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 4:40:25 PM

I am very opposing to Same Sex Gender marriage. I believe marriage is very sacred and is ordained of God. Marriage between a man and woman is essential to the family unit and to all mankind. Our society would be in chaos and confusion and ripen for destruction by a the hand of our Lord All Mighty. We would be living as in Sodom and Gomorra.

I believe in equal rights, however equal right has it's place. Church and Religion is our right to worship whom we believe to worship and our laws are of a higher power from our Heavenly Father and his son Jesus Christ. Same sexy marriage is an abomination to The Lord. It is by the grace of God that our country remains free and protected, and it is by this hand that we can be destroyed because of immoral and unrighteousness living. Those of us who are God fearing people know this. Those of you who are not see good for evil and evil for good. I stand firm that this abdominal law for same same gender marriage be done away with. My prayers are with you who has the power to make the right decision according to the laws of Heaven and the laws of the land. I believe that the Constitution of the United States was written by men inspired of God. It was written for us to live righteously in this promised land and same gender marriage is wrong.

Mahalo,

Raina K Dudoit

PO Box 39, HOOLEHUA, Hi, 96729
Iluvmkai@gmail.com

Sent from my iPad

Ramona Asato

E-MAIL: ramona0599@gmail.com

Fax cover sheet

DATE: 10/25/2013

TO: Clayton Hee, Karl Rhoads, Sylvia Luke

COMPANY/DEPT: C.H.-CHAIR, K.R. - CHAIR, S.L. - CHAIR

FROM: Ramona Asato

NO of pages (Including cover sheet): 1

COMMENTS: "Testimony in Opposition to SB1 Relating
to Equality" Please do not pass this bill, Hawaii voted several years ago
and killed a similar bill. We the people did vote gay and non gay.
Why did the people we elect into office try to revise and pass a similar bill.
Sometimes in life you will have to take a stance, I pray that you will stand
for traditional marriage, it is not a union, it is two people becoming one.
For the sake of Hawaii's future and the future of our keiki, this bill will be
the start of a moral and ethic decline here in beautiful Hawaii Nei. I beg of
you for my children and my childrens children do not pass this bill. May
God be with you. In the name of Jesus, pray on it and do what is right in
Gods eyes, once you go forward it will be hard to reverse your actions.
Ask for Godly wisdom in everything that you do. Please.

Aloha

Ramona Asato

=====

From: [Ann Allred](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Against the passage of SB1 10/28/13 10:30 am - Written Testimony Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 1:32:03 PM

Aloha.

You, our elected representatives, have an obligation to hear the voice of the people and to legislate in our behalf.

Our family joins with many, many families here in Hawaii who believe in the sanctity of the family and of the bond of marriage between a man and a woman. Strong families are the foundation of our society. Our island tradition supports strong families and religious values.

Our family also holds dear the freedom to practice our religion. While we do not condemn others for not living our values, we also feel that being able to believe and live our values should not be limited by others. The proposed legislation threatens these freedoms.

We ask that you please NOT PASS this bill before you. Let the people speak their mind to assure you that, as in 1998, we still believe marriage means the union of one man and one woman.

Thank you for your attention.

Randal and Ann Allred and Family
55-491 Iosepa Street
Laie HI 96762

From: [Raymond Glory Jr](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#); [Sen. Russell Ruderman](#); [Rep. Faye Hanohano](#); [Rep. Richard Onishi](#); [Rep. Clifton K. Tsuji](#); [Rep. Mark Nakashima](#); [Rep. Nicole Lowen](#); [Rep. Cindy Evans](#); [Rep. Denny Coffman](#); [Sen. Josh Green](#); [Sen. Gilbert Kahele](#); [Sen. Malama Solomon](#)
Subject: Not in Favor: SB1
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 6:47:28 AM

My name is Raymond Glory, Jr, and I am a life long resident of Hawai'i island. I was born in Kohala, and have lived in Volcano Village, for the past 24 years. I am against SB1 for the following reasons:

1. The convening of this special session for an issue that has such far reaching ramifications should have the full two thirds support of both the house and the senate. The fact that it does not and that the governor chooses to convene the special session anyway, is of great concern to me.
2. An issue of this magnitude should include as much input from the citizens as possible. This special session does not do that, as it is limited to only 5 or 6 days. To compound matters, if I want to testify in person, I have to fly to Honolulu to do it as there are no accommodations for in-person, neighbor island testifiers. This is discriminatory and abusive to neighbor island citizens.
3. It should be the goal of the legislature to write and pass into law the best bill possible to best serve all of the citizens of the state. The fact that the bill before the legislature cannot be amended is baffling, and leaves me with the impression that the input from the citizens, the house representatives, the senators ~ for that matter, everybody except the drafters of the bill ~ is not relevant or welcome. The bill is a "take it or leave it" document, and doesn't look at all like democracy in the United States of America.

Please vote against the bill.

Sincerely,
Raymond Glory, Jr.
P.O. Box 995
Volcano, HI 96785
(808) 967-8444

We OPPOSE SB 1 Hawaii Marriage Equality Act for the following reasons:

1. This debate seems to be focusing on the rights of consenting adults; but the rights of children are being ignored. Children have a right to be raised by their biological parents whose commitment to each other is attested to by the covenant of marriage. While recognising that this is an ideal, and that in practice mothers and fathers can be separated by death, by divorce or by lack of commitment, the fact remains that research supports the finding that children raised by both their biological parents who remain committed to each other do better on all measures of well-being. There will always be notable exceptions, but we should not be deconstructing the ideal of an institution which appears to be contributing to the general well-being of children.
2. Parents need to establish their relationship as a role model for their children. If the definition of marriage is altered to include same gender couples it sends mixed messages to children and contributes to gender confusion. The following is excerpted from an article entitled *Caring for Your School Age Child: Ages 5-12* (Copyright © 2004 American Academy of Pediatrics updated 30/12/2011.

“The gender-role behavior of children seems to be strongly influenced by their identification with the males and females in their lives. All children pick up characteristics from the men and women around them, incorporating these traits into their own personalities and value systems. They are also influenced by TV and sports heroes and adults in all other activities in their lives. Over time, the combined effect of these many influences may determine many of their masculine and feminine qualities. **Perhaps more than any other factor, the subtleties of every child's relationship with his or her father and mother—and the attitudes of the parents toward each other and toward the child—will influence his or her gender-related behaviors.**”

(Retrieved 15 October, 2012 from

<http://www.healthychildren.org/English/ages-stages/gradeschool/pages/Gender-Identity-and-Gender-Confusion-In-Children.aspx>)

3. The media has done a speedy job of changing public opinion on this issue in recent years. Marriage was once a sacred institution that was a clear pillar of society. To so quickly change to a new standard without examining the lasting effects it might have on society, and children in particular, is rash. Marriage as an institution should not be altered on the whim of the media when society as a whole is affected. We look to our politicians to show moral leadership in society, rather than lead the downward charge.
4. The Judeo-Christian tradition sees marriage as being ordained of God between a man and a woman. It also calls on men and women to be chaste before marriage and faithful in marriage. It calls on parents take responsibility for the raising of their children in love and kindness. In its ideal form it is an institution worth defending and deserving of our support. If strong families are the building blocks of a strong country, and a strong society, then nothing will endanger our future

more than the undermining of the family proposed in this Hawaii Marriage Equality Act.

5. The United States of America was built on Christian values that are inherent in the Judeo-Christian ethic and even though today it has become a much more secular society, and many of the Christian values have been eroded in the face of an evolving permissiveness, the influence of these values still permeates our culture. The erosion of these values and their positive moderation of human behaviour start with the idea, "I don't agree with this, but we live in a democratic country and I respect your right to think differently from the way I do." Having given way once, we become seduced by the logic of this argument and move to a tolerance which normalises practices which were previously regarded as not normal. Soon we embrace them wholeheartedly and their widespread acceptance means that those who try to remain faithful to the original premise are vilified and treated with less respect than those who lead the downward slide.

This process can be seen in a range of issues:

- (i) The abandonment of the sanctity of Sunday as the Sabbath day
- (ii) The abandonment of the notion of chastity before marriage and fidelity in marriage
- (iii) The notion of no-fault divorce
- (iv) Increasing violence and promiscuity of lifestyles promoted in the media
- (v) Lowering of the drinking age and proliferation of liquor outlets (including supermarkets)
- (vi) The decriminalisation of prostitution
- (vii) Increasing dishonesty in business, politics and indeed in all aspects of life
- (viii) The tolerance of sexually explicit material in movies and TV (and on the internet)

The results of this can be seen in:

- (i) The lack of spiritual reflection and refreshing which can accompany a day set aside for that purpose
- (ii) Increasing numbers of children born out of wedlock and raised in single parent homes
- (iii) Increasing incidence of intergenerational welfare dependency related to the above
- (iv) Increasing incidence of violence to children by partners of solo mothers (and failure of solo mothers to protect their children)
- (v) Increasing incidence of divorce with its concomitant negative impact on the lives of children
- (vi) Increasing incidence of promiscuity and incidence of sexually transmitted diseases
- (vii) Increasing incidence of violent crime
- (viii) Increasing participation by disenfranchised and disaffected youth (product of dysfunctional families) in gangs with the accompanying rise in gang related crime
- (ix) Increasing incidence of binge drinking and alcoholism (and drug use) among young people squandering the potential of their future life opportunities

- (x) Increasing incidence of theft as a servant, fraud, embezzlement, misrepresentation, political dishonesty
- (xi) Increasing incidence of pornography addiction among (particularly) males of all ages. It is interesting that we are permissive with regards to adult pornography but not to child pornography. As with any addiction, one thing leads to another. If we wish to reduce and even eliminate child pornography, we should be as strict on adult pornography.

A stand in favour of protecting the institution of marriage and against the amending of the definition of marriage to allow same sex marriage unfortunately inevitably attracts the ire of the proponents of this legislation. The Judeo-Christian ethic teaches us to strive to live peaceably with one another. We have no desire to denigrate those with same-gender attraction. In summary, we do, however, desire to reject this act because:

Summary:

1. It fails to take account of the rights of children to be part of a family environment which will give them the best chance of success in life.
2. It confuses the clarity of appropriate gender models for children.
3. The media has overinfluenced society into beliefs about same-sex marriage without considering the effects on society as a whole. Politicians need to show moral leadership and consider the potential for long-term negative downstream consequences that could flow from this redefinition.
4. Marriage is an institution worth protecting for the strong value it has on creating strong families, the building-block of our society.
5. Traditional values have positive worth in maintaining much that is good in society.

Clayton Hee, Chair

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

To begin, I would like to thank you for your service to our state and the sacrifices you have made to represent the state of Hawaii and its interests. Please know that I pray for you and your job, and while I take an interest in the politics of the state, your job is to work at it every day and I want thank you for your willingness to do that for the people of Hawaii.

I want to voice my concern for the upcoming bill up for consideration in the legislature. I deeply troubled by the speed at which this bill is being handled, especially with the society changing implications that it represents. Though it may seem that much time has been spent on this bill, the truth is that all the ongoing debate back and forth about it, and the research that is surfacing, it is clear that this is not something that should be rushed and decided on so quickly for you as our leaders and representatives. To do so would jeopardize the trust the people have in the government and thus tear apart the necessary unity needed between both in order to see positive change happen. If this bill is passed, there will be ramifications that will affect generations to come, whether you have read about the other states that have moved in the direction of approving bills like this one. I come to you as a father of 2 sons who are barely starting their education, and with the possibility of education being affected because of this issue in the future, it is crucial that the people of Hawaii get their voice heard. I hope that you as our representatives will recognize all sides of the issue, and make sure that you are making the right decision, what is best for all the people of Hawaii, not just a few.

While I oppose the bill, my main concern is that you have carefully thought through what this will mean for the future of Hawaii. There is a cost to the people of Hawaii that they must be made aware of. We cannot ignore the history of things that have passed and the changes that have occurred because of bills like this in other states. We cannot afford to make mistakes in the decision making process of Hawaii. It is essential that choose carefully and take time to make wise decisions. Decisions like this could cost our state more than we are ready for. I implore you to give the people of Hawaii the time to make the decision and not take it upon yourself to make the decision. You may regret it if you are not certain on both sides of the issue, not just one.

I appreciate your time in hearing my concerns and testimony. I hope this will help to focus your efforts as you consider your next steps. I know that the job you do is not easy, and I offer this word of encouragement to you to see that you find a moment to think through with wisdom and clarity. I hope that this will help you in the days ahead. Good luck with your decision upcoming and again thank you for your service to our state.

Sincerely,
Robert Uyeda

From: r.ventura@hawaii.rr.com
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: I OPPOSE SB1
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 8:56:10 PM

Dear Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

First, I want to thank you for your hard work and your heart to serve the people of Hawaii, trying to help protect our state and make life better for everyone.

I am asking you to vote NO at the special session regarding the proposed Same Sex Marriage Bill (SB1). I am opposed to redefining the meaning of the word "marriage". The definition of marriage in the United States has always been a legal union between one man and one woman (except for a period where polygamy was practiced by some of those of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints--which has since been outlawed.)

If this bill is passed and becomes law, I am concerned about the effect on the culture, values, and the rich pro family pro life traditions of Hawaii. There have been many instances in other states and countries where same sex marriage has been legalized where this change in law has greatly affected curriculum in schools, and the freedom of parents to speak and teach their children according to their moral beliefs.

Have you researched and analyzed the effects on those states (like Massachusetts) and places (like Canada) that have already made same sex marriage legal? It has been shown that some of the LGBT leaders have specific plans to change school curriculum and to change laws about churches being able to follow their faith in choosing whether or not to perform marriages, etc. based on their belief systems. Individuals and businesses who are not gay or lesbian should have freedom to live out their beliefs also.

I ask you to vote NO on SB1 until we, the people of Hawaii, can see what has happened in other places and decide if this is/will be in the BEST interests of the people of Hawaii. If you vote no on this issue, it will give time for greater research, debate and input from Hawaii's people. I believe that, regarding this issue, you will best serve the people by letting each one of us have a vote in determining the outcome that we are being asked to live by.

Thank you for reading my testimony and considering my opinion,
Robin S. Ventura, registered voter
3439 Anuwanu Place
Makawao, HI 96768

Clayton Hee, Chair

10/28/13

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

My wife and I arrived in Hawaii in 1998 and after retiring from the military, we chose to stay in Hawaii because we believed there was no better place to raise our eleven children. We loved the culture and spirit of mutual respect, community support for families and we wanted pass along to our children the religious/moral values that were given to us by our parents. But this bill threatens to change everything.

For this reason and the following, I offer this testimony against SB-1:

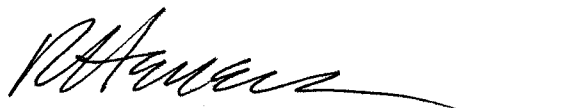
First, Same Sex Marriage is NOT a civil right. As a boy, I lived in the Washington DC area during the Civil Rights era of the early 1960's. As an undergraduate and graduate student, I studied American history and politics. To include sexual preference in the same category as a civil right is to grossly cheapen sacrifices made for true civil rights.

Second, please do NOT ignore the studies that explain the pain/guilt placed on children raised in same sex environments. The studies are rigorous and comprehensive. And the results are compelling--"marriage" is NOT appropriate for people who live a gay/lesbian life style. In fact, one of my adult daughters who has lived in the lesbian world for the past decade strongly agrees "marriage" is NOT appropriate for people who live a homosexual life style.

Finally, this Special Session does not reflect the desires of the public—we did not ask for it, it expends time/money that we do not have to waste and because this bill will change Hawaii's culture forever, I urge you to let the people decide!

We respectfully request you vote NO.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.



(Signature)

ROJELIO HERRERA JR.

94-368 HAKAMOA ST., MILILANI, HI 96789

(808) 284-9874

Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 407
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Date: Oct. 26, 2013

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

We are in opposition to same sex marriage. Please oppose this bill as it is principally against God's created order and His word. Please give us the opportunity to vote on this bill.

Sincerely,

Roland

From: [Ronette Taeaoli](#)
To: [JDL Testimony](#)
Subject: Special Session Same Sex Marriage Bill
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 8:34:56 AM

Thank you for your time. I am opposed to the Same Sex Marriage Bill because I feel the purpose of marriage is to create and raise happy and healthy families. By nature, we create another human being through the union of a man and a woman. More emphasis needs to be placed on the responsibility of our society to engage in healthy relationships that foster the growth and development of happy and healthy families. The decline of our society can be linked directly to the disintegration of the nuclear family.

Please revisit the Same Sex Marriage Bill and allow your constituents to study this legislation. The implications of passing a same sex marriage bill will affect society in many ways yet unforeseen.

I am asking that you allow the people to decide and have the opportunity to cast a vote reflecting our respect for the choices of one another.

Sincerely,

Ronette Taeaoli

From: [Rosemary Yokota](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Strong Opposition of SB1
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 10:39:47 PM

My name is Rosemary Yokota, I live at 716 Lukepane Ave., Apt. 502, Honolulu, HI 96816, I am writing to tell you that I am oppose to Bill SB1.

This bill should be given due process during the regular session where it can properly be examined as all other bills. I can not see why we are rushing to pass it without seeing where this bill will confuse our families and our children future. Please vote NO to democracy!

Thank you,

Rosemary Yokota

From: [Samuela Langi](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: My first amendment rights
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 4:28:32 PM

The bill does not address liability by local marriage vendors. If you are a photographer, cake maker, musician entertainer and you disagree to perform at these functions you can legally be sued by the couple to comply or get a fine.

But i believe i have conscience exception and I should be afforded the right to waive such occasions because I find it offensive to my GOD.

Freedom of religion was so important that the founders listed it twice in the Bill of rights.

Same way a doctor has the right not to perform an abortion because it interferes with his or her religious belief i should be afforded the same protections when being forced to do anything else offensive to my beliefs as well. Doctors and nurses are vendors in the medical profession and are paid for their services, i do not see any difference in the services that i provide that disqualify me from this ruling.

Mahalo

Sam Langi Jr

From: Mmoorelvi75@aol.com
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Sam Sex Marriage
Date: Wednesday, October 23, 2013 9:45:00 PM

Aloha,

I am a citizen, voter, and US Army veteran native to Hawaii. I married my husband 14 1/2 years ago, traditionally, in the sight of God. I oppose same sex marriage. I don't oppose another's beliefs, but the fact that a single legal document, supported by a reverend and witnesses, in the sight of God, puts my husband and I under the sacred status of "Married" could possibly be redefined for the purpose of equal benefits and tax purposes, degrades the sacredness of "Holy Matrimony."

The definition of marriage / same sex marriage should be voted upon by the very people who voted everyone into office, not behind closed doors and rushed into. Expenses for this special session could be used toward education - perhaps air conditioning for Campbell High School. (I'm not bias, I'm a Kailua grad...)

Again, I oppose same sex marriage and I thank you. My prayers are out to everyone in legislature.

Mahalo and Aloha,

Samlynn N Moore, wife, mother of 3, sister of a lesbian, cousin and friend to many, many gays and lesbians, believer of Jesus Christ, Lord and Savior.

From: [Sandy Coons](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Date: Wednesday, October 23, 2013 3:56:00 PM

I would like to add my voice to the testimony about recognizing same-sex marriage. I am asking the senate and house to vote NO on same sex marriage. I believe that marriage is a holy covenant designed by our God, and designed for a man-woman union, in Him. It is very simple, really. Read your Bible, and learn what our God says about marriage. Then, follow His Word, which is righteous. Thank you!

Secondly, this special session being called to pass a bill recognizing same-sex marriage is not democracy. Let the people decide, in a vote of all the people.
Sincerely, Sandra Coons

To Whom it May Concern,

October 26, 2013

I, Jamee Adams, of Hilo, HI, submit below my testimony in opposition to SB1.

I oppose two aspects of this bill, and innumerate them below:

- 1) I oppose that this bill is being submitted in a special legislative session as opposed to an open vote for the people of Hawaii. I understand that this legislative vote was made possible in 1998, but I still feel that most residents did not understand the rights and choices they were giving up at the time. (People thought that they were voting on an amendment to the Hawaii Constitution to solidify marriage between one man and one woman as the only definition of marriage in the state of Hawaii – not realizing they were giving up their right to vote on this issue to their legislative representatives.) It is taking advantage of the ignorance of many – and it is painful for those like myself who feel they understand the consequences of both the previous and current legislation. I am asking that you as honorable legislators give the vote back to the people of Hawaii. It should not have been presented in such a difficult and confusing way in the first place and to piggy-back on that previous decision does not suddenly make this bill in special session constitutional.
- 2) I oppose the wording in the bill that suggests that business and religious organizations will be forced to conduct or otherwise sanction same-sex marriages in their buildings. I am very worried that this legislation will lead to lawsuits or forcible action on the part of the minority against the perceived “bigoted” or “religious” – even if they are neither. Regardless of religious choice, Americans still have the personal freedom to control personal property and privately-owned spaces. As a precedent in other states (MA, WA, NM, NY), we are already seeing legal action being brought against those who deny access to their businesses or places of worship. That is not right and I fear that this legislation will allow for this infringement.

Thank you for your service to our community and your consideration of my testimony.

Sincerely,

Jamee Adams
734 Lahou St.
Hilo, HI 96720

Dear Sir,

First and foremost, I appreciate being a resident in Hawaii for twenty-four years. I thank you for all the hard work and support you've shown for the People in Hawaii. Please spend a couple of minutes to read this and kindly consider my request.

I am a Social Worker at Catholic Charities Hawaii. It's been 24 years since I moved from N. Dakota to Hawaii. The freedom and respect for the People in Hawaii have kept me to stay here as long as I could. Having said that, I would like to be very direct by asking you to consider voting no to the "Same Sex Marriage" bill during the Special Session on Oct 28th, and let the People of Hawaii decide it. Being a devoted Christian that is deeply involved with serving the immigrants and nurturing the next generation of youth, I clearly see the values of keeping traditional marriage and family structure intact for the sake of our present and future generations. Deep down in our hearts, we all know that same sex marriage is against the nature of human beings, that is, we are born to have marriage with opposite sex in order to reproduce off springs and establish families for the society to function.

Once again and simply put, I sincerely ask you to please let the People of Hawaii decide this on our own. This Special Session, unfortunately, does not represent the majority of the People's voice in Hawaii.

Respectfully,
Selina Lau
2033 Nuuanu Avenue, Apt. 17B
Honolulu, HI 96817
[808-834-6993](tel:808-834-6993)

From: [Serelina Mwarey](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: Against Same-sex Marriage
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 8:55:29 AM

To Whom It May Concern:

Aloha! First of all, I want to thank you for all that you do representing the people of Hawaii. We are blessed to be living in this beautiful islands and sharing the aloha with one another. Raising our kids and now grandkids here in Hawaii has been such a great joy. I believe in a family with a father and mother where the children grow up learning where we came from, why we are here, and where we are going. With this being said, I want to show my concern on the Bill #SB1. I am against the Same-sex Marriage. I want the people of Hawaii to voice their opinions and I hope you at the Capitol will let the people of Hawaii vote regarding this bill. I hope you will realize that the best for Hawaii is AGAINST SAME-SEX MARRIAGE. Thank you.

Mahalo,

Serelina Mwarey

From: [Shanita Akana](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY.
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 10:24:25 AM

Dear Honorable Chair and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

My name is Shanita Akana. I am from Ewa Beach, Hawaii. I am in opposition to SB 1 relating to Equality. A government that seeks to overthrow an 'already decided upon' definition of marriage is unfair, unjust, and inconsiderate of the voice of the people. Gay and lesbian couples already receive benefits through the Civil Unions bill passed in 2011. Career politicians lack compassion, although they offer consideration by allowing me to put forth my testimony, in the end, they vote party lines and this is very disturbing.

Please do not subject the people of Hawaii to the ways of Massachusetts. The repercussions are devastating and the worst ripple effect is re-writing school-aged textbooks in our public schools to include the teachings of a homosexual nature, which is not natural, but man-made. I am a 47 year old wife and mother, tolerant to all human beings, their creed, color, sexual orientation, etc., but will not let this one go as the future of my children and grandchildren are at stake. If you believe in good education for our children, let the lessons of moral principals stand in all classrooms in society, including the textbooks that law students read from.

It is unbelievable that states that passed the SSM bill have to re-write their law textbooks to include language of same sex unions. Let's not go down that path. You cannot infringe upon the personal religious beliefs of others. Our United States Constitution guards against this, well at least that's what I learned from my former educators and in the textbooks written during my high school and college years.

As a strong Catholic Christian, I ask all politicians who are still on the fence, to vote your conscience. Do what is morally right. Stand on moral principals. You do not need to change your vote to 'change with the times' as the senator from my district put it. One day, when you

stand before God, he will say to you, "Well done my good and faithful servant. Enter." And to those who allowed the evil forces to influence them, God will say, "Depart from me you evil doer, I do not know you." Our time on earth are numbered. Make it count. "Do what is morally right, not what you feel"~ a phrase I would often use on my own children, guiding them throughout their growing up years. My sons are now 25, 23, and 21. Children learn what they live....children live what they learn.

Sincerely,

Shanita Akana (wife to John Akana, mother to Kyle, Brock and Bradley Akana)

From: [Shannon Kanekoa](#)
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: SB1
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 2:35:13 PM

Aloha Mr. McKelvey and All Representatives of the People of the State of Hawaii,

As a registered voter in our beautiful and loving State, I would like to make my thoughts known to you concerning the 'Same Sex Marriage' initiative that you have been called upon by our Governor to vote on and represent the needs of the people of your districts.

Remember when we, the People, voted on this same issue several years ago? We, the People, voted that we did not want to change the definition of "Marriage" to include same sex marriage partners. It was a solid majority of our People who asked that "Marriage" remain as defined, only between a man and a woman. You accepted our vote at that time. Why do you now believe that we would change our minds so quickly on something that is so vital to the health and welfare of Families, as Families have been defined since time immemorial? We are not that wishy-washy, we know what is right and what is not right!

Now that the Governor wants to 'go around' the voting of the People, Please vote NO on this measure and respect the wishes of the people of Hawaii.

Mahalo for doing the "will of the People", as you campaigned to do when you were elected,

Shannon L. Kanekoa
26 W. Aipuni Place
Lahaina, Hawaii 96761
808-760-6060

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLWebTestimony](#)
Cc: shanonsidell@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 10:33:03 AM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/27/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Shanon	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Aloha Legislators, I write this before heading out to Sunday service. My values are liberty, social justice, compassion and respect for the dignity and worth of the individual. The inherent dignity and equal and inalienable rights of all human beings are the foundations of freedom, justice, and peace. I support the separation of State and Church as set forth in the Constitution of the United States of America in the First Amendment as well as Article VI, and believe this right is meant to support equality, not erode it. Separation of State and Church is meant to insure that no single religion can impose its particular beliefs on members of the general population. I support SB1

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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

For the Senate hearing: Hearing on 10/28 @ 10:30am

Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am opposing Same Sex Marriage because Same Sex Marriage violates Chinese Tradition.

American Chinese are very serious about family. We tell the youth that taking care the elderlies in the family is their duty. We finance businesses through family. We borrow money to buy properties through family. We obtain the best education through family.

We know from our hearts that we need love from father and mother, so we apply the same to others. Our children need love from their father and mother as we do.

Same Sex Marriage bill is going to destroy Chinese tradition. We want our local boys and girls know that rearing family biologically is the best. We want to give the best to our future.

Therefore, please vote NO on any piece of the Same Sex Marriage bill!

From: [Sharon Martin](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: RE: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY - MRS. SHARON T. MARTIN
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 12:26:09 PM

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am a voting resident residing in Kaneohe. I am adamantly opposed to the proposed Senate Bill 1 relating to Marriage Equality. I urge all of you to consider the destructive ramifications of the passage of such a Bill on traditional families, our school educational system (state as well as private), our businesses, and on every individual in our state.

This Bill tramples on our first amendment right - The Right of Religion and Expression. I believe in God's definition of marriage between one man and one woman and stand by His Word. I urge you to NOT approve this Senate Bill.

Mahalo to you all for your time, consideration, and all that you do for our beautiful State.

With warm regards,
Mrs. Sharon T. Martin
Pharmacist, Castle Medical Center
Wife and Mother of Three

email: sharonmartin7@gmail.com
ph# 391-8508
45-621 Halelo Place
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

From: [Shayna Kaneko](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Testimony
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 12:53:13 PM

Aloha!

As a resident of Hawaii, I would like to take this time to ask you to stop the Special Session on Marriage Equality and let the people vote on marriage. We are only 2 months away from a Regular Session, so what's the rush with this Special Session? Also, marriage is not equality and it does not need to be redefined! When they changed the law about race, they didn't change the definition of race, When they made a law that women were allowed to vote, they didn't change the definition of women or voting. So why change the definition of marriage? I heard polls shows that majority of Hawaii wants same-gender marriage, but I was never asked about that! So if that's what they say, why not let the people vote? Do you know what will happen if this bill passes? If you don't, read about what happened to Massachusetts and how their state is falling apart. It will also happen to us, if we don't do anything about it. Our children will be learning from kindergarden how to have gay sex. I'm not a parent yet, but I do want kids, and I would not want my children to learn about sex at such a young age. Please consider to kill this bill or let the people of Hawaii vote on marriage!

Thank you for your time!

Mahalo,

Shayna Kaneko

From: [Sheldon Lacsina](mailto:Sheldon.Lacsina)
To: JUDSStestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov; [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#); [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: WRITTEN TESTIMONY
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 10:22:28 AM

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hearing Date/Time: Monday, October 28, 2013, 10:30 a.m.
Place: Capitol Auditorium
Re: Strong Opposition of SB1

Dear Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am writing to voice my opposition to Bill SB1.

I oppose this bill due to the lack of the democratic process. The majority of Hawaii DOES NOT WANT SAME SEX MARRIAGE as a law. The ramifications of this law has not been well thought through, religions are not protected fairly, businesses are not protected fairly, and rushing this bill through will have negative consequences for sure...just do the research with the states that have passed this law.

Yes, in 1998, we voted to "grant the Hawaii State Legislature the power to reserve marriage to opposite-sex couples," only because that's what was worded. It should've said, "Marriage in the state of Hawaii is reserved between one man and one woman." But it was worded that way so that you could do what you're doing today, which is not how our constitution works.

This is not the best way to go about the most critical issue facing our time. You know as well as I do, the way it's being done and the way the bill is worded, VIOLATES THE FIRST AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sheldon Lacsina
Kea'au, Hawaii 96749
DISTRICT 4

From: [Sheri-Lyn Angala](#)
To: [JDCTestimony; jdusstestimony@capitol.hawaii.com](mailto:JDCTestimony@capitol.hawaii.com)
Subject: Testimony in opposition to SB1
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013 8:04:14 AM

Dear Legislators,

I am writing to you to oppose Bill SB1 Relating to equal rights And Recognizing marriages of same-sex.

I am a human resources professional and a mother of three children. I strongly feel that this bill, should it be passed, will negatively impact families and our community. It will result in the loss of religious freedom for many religious leaders, organizations, individuals and small businesses. More importantly, It will also redefine marriage and as such will contribute to the deterioration of the traditional family which will lead to the eventual downfall of our society.

I truly hope that you will take my consideration to heart and consider not passing SB-1.

Mahalo,
Sheri-Lyn Angala
Mililani resident

From: shirley.ching
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY
Date: Sunday, October 27, 2013 12:55:23 AM

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I would like to inform you that **I am not in favor of SENATE BILL 1** as in infringes on what our "Church Miracle Faith Apostolic Global Church believes. We believe that God has ordained over 2000 years ago that marriage is between one man and one woman. We believe that "Matrimony" is one of the seventh sacraments that God provided for a man and a woman. **Marriage is a supernatural act performed by the divine grace of God so that two human beings a male and female becomes one flesh. "Our Lord said in the Bible let no man separate what he had put together."** This Senate Bill 1 is separating the Marriage Law that God had provided for a man and a woman.

Couples of the same sex have already been given Civil Union Rights. By changing the Law of marriage to allow them to marry is taking away our rights and beliefs that marriage is a **living sacrament from God, Holy between one man and one woman.**

I am asking you to please reconsider my testimony and not pass Senate Bill 1 and allow the people to vote on this issue.

Shirley P. Ching,

Ministered member with Christian Harfouche Miracle Ministries International

From: welnesdoc@hawaiiantel.net
To: [JDLTestimony-WrittenOnly](#)
Subject: SB 1
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013 5:59:29 PM

Dear members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

I am a constituent of Senate district 4 and want to voice my opinion concerning SB 1.

I am against same sex marriage and want my elected officials to vote against SB 1. Several years ago the people of Hawaii voted on their ballots against same sex marriage the now the Governor has taken it upon himself to promote the cause of a FEW in the state who have loud voices.

SB 1 has language that is not specific and could cause churches to lose their religious freedom. It is a poorly worded bill and needs refinement at the least and be dismissed entirely at its best.

Mahalo,

Stacey Nagareda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLWebTestimony](#)
Cc: tanalee05@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM (Written Only)
Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 7:17:06 AM

SB1

Submitted on: 10/25/2013

Testimony for on Oct 28, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Tana-Lee Rebhan-Kang	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Just say "No!" to same sex marriage, today, tomorrow, and always. I'm 63 years old, homosexual all the days of my life. I stopped "practicing" in 1984 when I became a Christian. When two male pipes or two female pipes can be joined to provide water; when two tabs or two slots can be joined to build a project; when two plugs or two outlets can be joined to provide electricity; or when two men or two women can be joined to produce a child without the aid of the opposite sex, I'll be for same sex marriage. Anyone who thinks there is nothing wrong with homosexuality is in denial. We are a bunch of lost sheep looking for love in all the wrong places. Legally speaking, why do married people have benefits single people don't? Maybe we singles should start our own "civil rights" movement.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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

Honorable Senator Hee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on Senate Bill 1.

I would like to share a little bit about myself so that you might know what I'm asking and why it's important not to just me, but to society and our great nation as a whole.

I am a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, colloquially known as the Mormons. I'm sure you are well aware of my church's stance on same-sex marriage, so I won't spend more time on that other than to say we believe it to be an immoral practice and detrimental to society. However, something that isn't often focused on as much is our belief in agency. While I believe homosexuality is immoral, I also believe very strongly in our right to choose for ourselves. In fact, one of our Articles of Faith states: "We claim the privilege of worshiping Almighty God according to the dictates of our own conscience, and *allow all men the same privilege*, let them worship how, where, or what they may." (italics added)

I am deeply concerned that in our society's pursuit of the right for same-sex couples to marry, freedom of religion and the rights of churches will be eroded. Please do what is in your power to ensure that any bill considered in favor of same-sex marriage also protects the rights of churches and businesses to conduct themselves in accordance with their own moral codes. While I personally believe that government has no right to define marriage at all, it is what it is and I cannot let this opportunity pass by without adding my voice to the conversation.

Thank you for your time and consideration and for all that you do in service to our community. I hope that adding my thoughts and perspective will aid you and others in the legislative process in protecting ALL freedom and rights.

Tasheena Zickgraf