

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testifying in Person</b>
Ethan Lee	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: To: The House Judiciary Committee The House Finance Committee  
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m. Place: Capitol Auditorium  
Re: Strong Opposition to SB1 Dear Chairs Rhoads and Luke, and Members of both the House Committees on Judiciary and Finance: 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. Ethan Lee Haleiwa, HI

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testifying in Person</b>
Dayton Dano	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Dear Representatives, I live on the Windward side of O'ahu, in Kahalu'u. I am a Native Hawaiian. I am opposed to passing the same sexed marriage bill SB1. I am so disgusted and disappointed with the wording in the Bill being presented, but I am even MORE DISGUSTED & DISAPPOINTED with the fact that lawmakers are thinking about passing legislation like this in a special session, NOT allowing people a voice...let us vote!! PLEASE vote NO... we WILL REMEMBER. Aloha, Dayton Dano Kaneohe, 96744

Dear Representatives:

My name is Genevieve Coursey, I live in Kaimuki, and have lived in Hawaii for almost 10 years. I am a military wife, a mother of three, and I am here to support this bill, SB-1 with all of my heart. I am a proud member of The First Unitarian Church of Honolulu, who collectively along with our fabulous minister, Reverend Jonipher Kwong, fully support this bill as it is full in accordance with our church's first principle of affirming and promoting the inherent worth and dignity of every person.

I keep hearing from the opposition "What about the children?" "Do we want our children to grow up like this?" And my answer to those questions is a resounding yes. My children, and your children, and their children need to grow up in a world that does indeed recognize the inherent worth and dignity of every single person. A world where they know that their aunts and uncles, and teachers and friends, and even they themselves are worthy of the same rights and dignity no matter who they love and share their life with. So when I support marriage equality, I am infact thinking of the children, who I wish will grow up in a world who's laws are not created around hateful or oppressive dogma. A world where teenagers are not filled with such confusion and depression about their sexual orientation that they think the world is better without their beautiful and worthy contributions. A world where all families are appreciated and honored, no matter if they have two moms, two dads, or a mom and dad.

I am strongly convinced that marriage equality is exactly what Hawaii needs to be the true aloha state.

Thank you for reading and considering my testimony. In consideration of the children and families, I urge you to vote yes on SB-1, and make marriage equality a reality in the state of Hawaii.

Mahalo,  
Genevieve Coursey

# BettyJeanAnderson

91-1006 Waiko'ihī Street • KaMakana at Hoakalei • Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706 •  
Telephone/Fax (808) 681-3232 • E-mail: [ladyvalledor@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:ladyvalledor@hawaii.rr.com)

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

To: The Hawaii State House, 27<sup>th</sup> Legislature of 2013  
Chairmen Karl Rhoads and Sylvia Luke, Vice Chairs Sharon E. Har, Scott Y. Nishimoto,  
Aaron Ling Johanson  
All Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Finance

Re: OPPOSE Senate Bill S.B. 1 – “RELATING TO EQUAL RIGHTS” and all related bills  
legitimizing homosexuality or same sex marriage.  
Hearing, Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 10:00 AM. in the Auditorium  
State Capitol, 415 So. Beretania St., Honolulu, HI 96813

## **I WISH TO GIVE AN ORAL TESTIMONY IN PERSON.**

Greetings. I am BettyJean Anderson, a married voter, mother of three, teacher and Hawaii resident 33 years. Please oppose SB1. This bill is in conflict with the freedom of religion and the right to free speech. People of faith are already experiencing discrimination. Why is the gay community intolerant of Christian doctrine and allowed to accuse us of hate crimes while themselves addressing us as bigots and homophobes?

Psychologist, Dr. W. Peter Blitchington, on sex roles explains the gender difference relating to marriage. The male and female embryo are identical till the 7<sup>th</sup> week of pregnancy. The hormones: androgens and testosterone for the male, and progesterone and estrogen for the female, wash through the brain and spinal chord of the embryo determining the male and female genders and characteristics which together procreates the human family and the human race through the institution of marriage.

Forcing the Church to accept homosexuality is government setting up the rights of humanistic homosexuals *above* the rights of religious citizens making our rights second-class. How can one argue with “The Law” even when that law is illegitimate in the eyes of God who Himself claims to be the Supreme Law above all laws, God of gods and King of kings. Even Governor Abercrombie told Representative McDermott he expects polygamy suits within a year. Please oppose S.B. 1.

This bill is not truly about equal rights for homosexuals to marry since their rights and benefits are already protected under our domestic partnership and civil unions laws--after all, what's a piece of paper? Can't we create a law to include the benefits homosexuals desire without changing the definition of marriage?

Please read the agenda of the homosexual community; and watch the video of Massachusetts' buyer's remorse when they passed the Same Sex Marriage Act. I also have additional links and resources regarding the harms created from the practice and legalization of homosexuality. Instead, please support and preserve the true institution of marriage by passing HB 5 “Proposing An Amendment To The Hawaii Constitution To Reserve Marriage to Opposite Sex Couples.”

Respectfully submitted,  
Mrs. BettyJean Anderson  
Ewa Beach, Hawaii



1. **What Same Sex Marriage has done to Massachusetts.** The electronic version has links to state publications, etc. [http://www.massresistance.org/docs/marriage/effects\\_of\\_ssm\\_2012/](http://www.massresistance.org/docs/marriage/effects_of_ssm_2012/)
2. **Comparing the Lifestyles of Homosexual Couples to Married Couples**  
<http://www.frc.org/content/comparing-the-lifestyles-of-homosexual-couples-to-married-couples>
2. **Eligibility for donating blood by American Red Cross**  
<http://www.redcrossblood.org/donating-blood/eligibility-requirements/eligibility-criteria-alphabetical-listing>
3. **Phil Lees came from Canada to warn Hawaii** about the changes that came about in Canada after same sex marriage was approved there. The first one is from a talk he gave in Honolulu minus the very graphic stuff (that is being shown to the kids).  
  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pZ6E3NP9Jlc>  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZCmR0F0nzug>
4. **The Gay Manifesto** is below.
5. **Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project** (Massachusetts stats, from GLBT source, on their high rates of domestic violence. Still trying to find "neutral sources on MA").  
  
<http://gmdvp.org/news-events/>
6. **Catholic cite on importance of children having a father and mother.** It cites Rosie O'Donnell's son Parker & him asking for a father.  
<http://www.chastity.com/chastity-qa/homosexuality/homosexuality/whats-wrong-with-gay>
7. **10 very good reasons for Why Not Gay Marriage**  
A free e-book from First Assembly of God website. Focus On The Family product.  
  
<http://www.firstaog.com/downloads/whynot.pdf>
8. Michael Brown did extensive research in his book "A Queer Thing Happened to America"  
**Michael Brown Answering Tough Questions that Homosexuals Ask**  
  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-3Mtgj5R2Qk>

# The Gay Manifesto!

Jamaica Observer  
Wednesday, May 23, 2012 | 12:39 PM

*Below is the complete text of the Gay Manifesto first Published in Gay Community News, February 15-21, 1987*

"We shall sodomize your sons, emblems of your feeble masculinity, of your shallow dreams and vulgar lies. We shall seduce them in your schools, in your dormitories, in your gymnasiums, in your locker rooms, in your sports arenas, in your seminaries, in your youth groups, in your movie theater bathrooms, in your army bunkhouses, in your truck stops, in your all male clubs, in your houses of Congress, wherever men are with men together. Your sons shall become our minions and do our bidding. They will be recast in our image. They will come to crave and adore us.

Women, you cry for freedom. You say you are no longer satisfied with men; they make you unhappy. We, connoisseurs of the masculine face, the masculine physique, shall take your men from you then. We will amuse them; we will instruct them; we will embrace them when they weep. Women, you say you wish to live with each other instead of with men. Then go and be with each other. We shall give your men pleasures they have never known because we are foremost men too, and only one man knows how to truly please another man; only one man can understand the depth and feeling, the mind and body of another man.

All laws banning homosexual activity will be revoked. Instead, legislation shall be passed which engenders love between men.

All homosexuals must stand together as brothers; we must be united artistically, philosophically, socially, politically and financially. We will triumph only when we present a common face to the vicious heterosexual enemy.

If you dare to cry faggot, fairy, queer, at us, we will stab you in your cowardly hearts and defile your dead, puny bodies.

We shall write poems of the love between men; we shall stage plays in which man openly caresses man; we shall make films about the love between heroic men which will replace the cheap, superficial, sentimental, insipid, juvenile, heterosexual infatuations presently dominating your cinema screens. We shall sculpt statues of beautiful young men, of bold athletes which will be placed in your parks, your squares, your plazas. The museums of the world will be filled only with paintings of graceful, naked lads.

Our writers and artists will make love between men fashionable and de rigueur, and we will succeed because we are adept at setting styles. We will eliminate heterosexual liaisons through usage of the devices of wit and ridicule, devices which we are skilled in employing.

We will unmask the powerful homosexuals who masquerade as heterosexuals. You will be shocked and frightened when you find that your presidents and their sons, your industrialists, your senators, your mayors, your generals, your athletes, your film stars, your television personalities, your civic leaders, your priests are not the safe, familiar, bourgeois, heterosexual figures you assumed them to be. We are everywhere; we have infiltrated your



ranks. Be careful when you speak of homosexuals because we are always among you; we may be sitting across the desk from you; we may be sleeping in the same bed with you.

There will be no compromises. We are not middle-class weaklings. Highly intelligent, we are the natural aristocrats of the human race, and steely-minded aristocrats never settle for less. Those who oppose us will be exiled.

We shall raise vast private armies, as Mishima did, to defeat you. We shall conquer the world because warriors inspired by and banded together by homosexual love and honor are invincible as were the ancient Greek soldiers.

The family unit-spawning ground of lies, betrayals, mediocrity, hypocrisy and violence - will be abolished. The family unit, which only dampens imagination and curbs free will, must be eliminated. Perfect boys will be conceived and grown in the genetic laboratory. They will be bonded together in communal setting, under the control and instruction of homosexual savants.

All churches who condemn us will be closed. Our only gods are handsome young men. We adhere to a cult of beauty, moral and esthetic. All that is ugly and vulgar and banal will be annihilated. Since we are alienated from middle-class heterosexual conventions, we are free to live our lives according to the dictates of the pure imagination. For us too much is not enough.

The exquisite society to emerge will be governed by an elite comprised of gay poets. One of the major requirements for a position of power in the new society of homoeroticism will be indulgence in the Greek passion. Any man contaminated with heterosexual lust will be automatically barred from a position of influence. All males who insist on remaining stupidly heterosexual will be tried in homosexual courts of justice and will become invisible men.

We shall rewrite history, history filled and debased with your heterosexual lies and distortions. We shall portray the homosexuality of the great leaders and thinkers who have shaped the world. We will demonstrate that homosexuality and intelligence and imagination are inextricably linked, and that homosexuality is a requirement for true nobility, true beauty in a man.

We shall be victorious because we are fueled with the ferocious bitterness of the oppressed who have been forced to play seemingly bit parts in your dumb, heterosexual shows throughout the ages. We too are capable of firing guns and manning the barricades of the ultimate revolution.

Tremble, hetero swine, when we appear before you without our masks." - END  
<http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/news/Full-text-of-the-gay-manifesto->

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SENATE BILL 1

Thursday October 31, 2013

10:00 a.m.

Auditorium, State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

My name is Napaliku honua Kahalepuna and I am a registered voter of House District 47. I am testifying against SB-1.

It was amazing to see the overwhelming support for traditional marriage on Monday evening, October 28th at the state capital building. Thousands of families, friends, religious groups and others who were opposing SB-1 standing as one in a peaceful, unified effort. It was truly a sight to see and I was grateful to be a part of.

Even with all the support and efforts made to oppose this bill, the Senate chair and board still passed the bill amongst the immense showing of opposition directly outside the building walls. Over 2000 individuals stood before the Senate Chair and his board and opposed SB-1 with no avail. It was clear by the board's expressions, lack of interests, and manipulating of the testimony times that their minds were already made up that they were in support of SB-1 before this special session even began.

It upsets me that these board members are voted into these positions to represent the people in certain areas yet they ignore the plea of the people they represent to oppose and stop this bill! I'm frustrated that the senator chair and his board found it more important to vote yes to benefit themselves, their own agendas, and the few voices that support this bill. I believe this system is compromised, faulty, broken, doesn't work, poho, kapakahi, lose money and many other things. It seems like we are putting in so much effort in a lost cause and not even being heard.

I am a father, husband, son, brother, uncle, cousin and nephew. Becoming all of these were made possible by traditional marriage by my ancestors before me. Nothing has brought more joy to my life than being a part of a loving traditional family and especially being able to extend our lineage by creating my own family with my wife. I fear that if this bill passes my children will have to face the brunt of many obstacles to come that could impact the way they will be able to raise their own families. I strongly urge the House of Representatives to rise up to the occasion. Listen to people and do what is right and let the people decide. I am strongly in opposition of SB-1.

Mahalo,

Napaliku honua Kahalepuna

48-463 Haupoa St Kaneohe, HI 96744

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Joseph Fano	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: To:The House Judiciary Committee The House Finance Committee Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 am Re: Strong Opposition to SB! Dear Chair Rhoads, and Luke, and Members of both the House Committees on Judiciary and Finance: I am writing to voice my opposition to Bill SB1. In addition to my belief that this bill is extremely inadequate in its protection of our religious rights as churches and individuals, this whole process has made me literally sick. It was painfully obvious that the senate has just been going through the motions. It did not matter who showed up on Monday or what was said. The panel had their minds already made up. Why could not they have had the decency to sit through the testimonies. I understand that it was long and occasionally you need to take care of business, but many were gone often and for long periods of time and these senators asked for our vote. They asked to be there and they are being paid for that. Why could not they at least pretend that they represent us. The speed of this process has also left a bad taste in my mouth. I really feel like we are not being represented. We spoke with a strong majority and loud and clear in 1998 and I believe we did again on Monday. Look how many people took time out to show up to let their voice be heard. If this bill goes through as is, I believe the rift that this has created in our islands will just grow. This will result in lawsuits, good people having to face unnecessary legal matters, and costly court cases for good organizations that may not be able to afford them. Our representatives have not even tried to see how they can adjust the bill to make it more acceptable to all. This would at least be a show of respect for the voices of your constituents. Lastly, I would like to say that the legislature is going against the Hawaii State Constitution and giving itself powers it does not have. Section 23. The legislature shall have the power to reserve marriage to opposite-sex couples. [Add HB 117 (1997) and election Nov 3, 1998] Please know that I am not coming from a place of hate, superiority or bigotry. I know the value of every living person and acknowledge their rights to believe and live as they see right. Marriage, an institution established by church, is, by very definition, between a man and a woman. If you feel you have the right to redefine that, please at least do not step on my rights and freedoms. Thank you for allowing me to testify, Joseph Fano 47-573 Puapoo Pl Kaneohe, HI 96744

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Kailani Fano	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: To:The House Judiciary Committee The House Finance Committee Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 am Re: Strong Opposition to SB! Dear Chair Rhoads, and Luke, and Members of both the House Committees on Judiciary and Finance: I am writing to voice my opposition to Bill SB1. In addition to my belief that this bill is extremely inadequate in its protection of our religious rights as churches and individuals, this whole process has made me literally sick. It was painfully obvious that the senate has just been going through the motions. It did not matter who showed up on Monday or what was said. The panel had their minds already made up. Why could not they have had the decency to sit through the testimonies. I understand that it was long and occasionally you need to take care of business, but many were gone often and for long periods of time and these senators asked for our vote. They asked to be there and they are being paid for that. Why could not they at least pretend that they represent us. The speed of this process has also left a bad taste in my mouth. I really feel like we are not being represented. We spoke with a strong majority and loud and clear in 1998 and I believe we did again on Monday. Look how many people took time out to show up to let their voice be heard. If this bill goes through as is, I believe the rift that this has created in our islands will just grow. This will result in lawsuits, good people having to face unnecessary legal matters, and costly court cases for good organizations that may not be able to afford them. Our representatives have not even tried to see how they can adjust the bill to make it more acceptable to all. This would at least be a show of respect for the voices of your constituents. Lastly, I would like to say that the legislature is going against the Hawaii State Constitution and giving itself powers it does not have. Section 23. The legislature shall have the power to reserve marriage to opposite-sex couples. [Add HB 117 (1997) and election Nov 3, 1998] Please know that I am not coming from a place of hate, superiority or bigotry. I know the value of every living person and acknowledge their rights to believe and live as they see right. Marriage, an institution established by church, is, by very definition, between a man and a woman. If you feel you have the right to redefine that, please at least do not step on my rights and freedoms. Thank you for allowing me to testify, Kailani Fano 47-573 Puapoo PI Kaneohe, HI 96744

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testifying in Person</b>
Lois J Young	Individual	Oppose	Yes



Aloha, My name is Henry Vincent III, 5<sup>th</sup> Generation Keiki O Ka A'ina.

I am here to Testify in OPPOSITION to SB1! – Equal Rights – Same Sex Marriage Bill

Let's just call it what it is!

Some of my reasons for opposition are:

1. Hawaii's AG testified in the Senate hearing that "same sex marriage" couples will have the exact same benefits as "civil union" couples with 2 exceptions out of 1132. We don't need another law to give us the same benefit. .
2. The Director of the Hawaii Civil Rights Commission (HCRC) testified that "the definition of religious organizations and non -profits organizations are vague and unclear". This will create confusion unless changed according to HCRC Director. The Senate made no changes so the bill and remains flawed according to the AG and HCRC.
3. Because of these problems and others that are still in the bill Church owned facilities could be considered "Public Accomadations" thus no longer falling under the religious exemption laws promised to hundreds of thousands of Hawaii residents that worship in many different denominations.

This Bill is flawed as it stands by admission of your own appointed experts and needs to be struck down and killed. The regular session would be a better time to

come up with a constitutional amendment that all of us can vote on.

If there is such a huge wave of sentiment towards same gender marriage why are you so afraid as legislators to put it on the ballot for the people to vote on.

Don't make the same mistake that the Senators did by lying to the people and saying "religious freedoms are protected they will not be according to your own experts.

Stop lying to the LGBT community as well saying they are getting 1000's of benefits when they already have all but 2 of them.

Please VOTE NO to SB-1!!!! Listen to your own experts, MORE IMPORTANTLY LISTEN TO YOUR CONSTITUENTS and Your conscience.

To: Members of the House Joint Committee

My name is Jean Tsuda and I vote in House District 50. I am speaking to voice my opposition to Bill SB1 and this Special Session.

I am a retired teacher, administrator and educational specialist with the Department of Education having served our children for 38 years. Back in the 1960's and I know this ages me, I taught sex education to six graders as part of the Health curriculum on the body's systems. The human reproductive system was taught as part of a unit covering all the other systems- the circulatory system, the nervous system, the respiratory system, the digestive system, and so on. The children were taught how the reproductive system allows humans to produce children. All references were made in the context of a heterosexual couple in an intimate relationship. I was comfortable with the curriculum and the TV lesson that accompanied it. Parents were given the opportunity to request that their children be exempt from this part of the unit. Most did not.

Since same sex marriage was made into law in Massachusetts and Canada, curriculum guides on teaching children about the homosexual lifestyle have been mandated to be taught in their school districts. In Massachusetts and Canada, parents have no rights regarding the teaching of homosexual relationships in schools because they don't have the right to opt their children out of those classes.

The Toronto District School Board has approved an Equity Policy Statement which requires that ideals related to anti-homophobia and sexual orientation equity be reflected in all aspects of organizational structures, policies, guidelines, procedures, classroom practices, day-to-day operations, and communication practices. So what does this mean?

- Teachers are obliged to address all equity issues (issues regarding historically disadvantaged groups). If they don't they are not in compliance with the Board's Equity Policy.
- Schools cannot send notes or permission forms home before the start of such classes. If a school treats the topic of sexual orientation or anti-

homophobia work differently from the range of other curriculum topics, this could be construed as discriminatory practice.

- While the TDSB works to create a school system free from religious discrimination, this freedom (religious accommodation) is not absolute. The TDSB will limit practices or conduct in its schools that may put public safety, health, or the human rights and freedoms of others at risk.
- Teachers cannot seek accommodation from teaching materials that may contradict their religious beliefs. Failure to teach is contrary to the obligations outlined for teachers on Page 4 of the TDSB Human Rights Policy. Teachers refusing to create an inclusive classroom that is safe and supportive for all students would create a poisoned learning environment.

There is much more that has already taken place in the educational curriculum of the schools where same sex marriage has been legalized. The impact upon the schools is heavy and far-reaching. Teaching sex education back in the sixties was part of the health curriculum, today it's more than the biology of reproduction but a lifestyle and sexual orientation that has begun to influence and affect the things we teach and the way we teach our children.

I find the mandates that dictate what should be taught, how it should be taught and when it should be taught, while restricting the rights of parents and teachers to be frightening and undemocratic. As a life-long teacher and mother I strongly oppose SB1 for these reasons as well as for the beliefs I hold as a Christian.

In closing, I respectfully and strongly disagree with the statements made by the HSTA, a union to which I once belonged, that same sex marriage will not affect our children's education. I find the mandated Ontario, Canada K-12 curriculum resource guide in particular to be very disturbing. If this kind of curriculum resource guide is mandated for schools in Massachusetts and Canada, what's the guarantee that it won't happen here in Hawaii? I'm here for the sake of our children.

Thank you.

Committees on Judiciary and Finance  
Re: SB1

October 30, 2013

Dear Committee Members,

I have lived my life respecting other people's beliefs and choices. When this special session was called to address same sex marriage in Hawaii, I believed it was simply about choice and I respected that.

We have been told that this bill is not about changing our education system; it is just about affording equal benefits to all.

THE TRUTH IS: Legalizing same sex marriage RESULTS IN MANDATING THE EDUCATION SYSTEM EMBRACE THE SAME STANDARD, as it has in Canada, Massachusetts, and California.

Beginning in elementary school, children are taught that there are no rules for being a boy or a girl and that affirming homosexuality demonstrates good citizenship. Students are allowed to use restrooms and shower facilities consistent with their gender identification---on any given day. The indoctrination includes explicit and pornographic material normalizing homosexual behavior with graphic detail, encouraging experimentation, but with tips on how to perform them safely.

I was particularly shocked at a booklet, LITTLE BLACK BOOK: QUEER IN THE 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY, produced by the Massachusetts Dept. of Public Health and was given to educators, middle and high school students. Apparently promoting safety, it gives graphic tips on how to perform homosexual acts. PLEASE GOOGLE IT AND SEE FOR YOURSELVES.

GO TO THE MASSRESISTANCE.ORG website and find out much more about the ramifications of legalizing same sex marriage.

**THIS IS WHERE I DREW THE LINE IN THE SAND.** I respect other people's choices, but believe in protecting people that cannot protect themselves; namely children and disabled. Our vulnerable, powerless children will be confused about their gender, experiment in sexually risky behavior, and compromise their morality.

I believe YOU KNOW that the majority of people in Hawaii are UNAWARE of that passage of this bill would FOREVER change the education of our children. They will be indoctrinated to accept as normal----unhealthy, unsafe sexual practices.

Please vote **NO** on legalizing same sex marriage for the sake of our children.

Sincerely,

*Cathy Ahlo*

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
kai manago	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I am a LDS member. I have many friends and associates that are gay. I love all people and respect what others believe. My concern is, does the government respect what others believe? Does the government even listen to the voices of the people? I have faith there are still righteous men out there leading this state. My words to those who are listing, let the people vote. I want my rights as a LDS member to be protected. I want the right to believe what I want to believe in, practice my faith freely without being judged and looked down upon. Those who are for this Bill say that we as Christians are ignorant and stupid for opposing this bill because of what we believe in. They think they are the victims because we as Christians stand up for our rights and freedoms. What happened to freedom of speech and freedom of religion? Was it lost because people forgot this county was fought for in order protecting people's freedoms? Men's lives have been lost giving us the freedoms we have not. The values and beliefs have diminished because people forgot who we are as Americans. WE ARE A FREE PEOPLE. We should believe in what we want to believe in without the hate and disrespect towards us. I ask that you not pass the bill. I ask that you think about all those who will be affected. I ask that you realize many, rights will be taken away from many just to grant a few people rights. I ask that you respect our rights and not take away our freedoms. Do not let the lives that were sufficed to protect our freedoms be in vain.

**To: House Committee on Judiciary and Finance**

**Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:30 a.m.**

**Place: Capitol Auditorium**

**Re: Very Strong Opposition of SB1**

**Dear Chair Rhoads and Luke and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Finance:**

**I am writing to voice my very strong 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.**

**Senator Hee suppressed the testimony of over one thousand people in closing off testimony during the Senate Hearings. The state sunshine laws are selectively broken by the legislature. The process is a dog and pony show that is removed from any transparency due to back door deals and closed meetings that don't allow people's strong bi-partisan majority to be heard.**

**Please support HB5 on letting the people vote for a Constitutional Amendment on marriage. I also urge your support for HB11 and HB12.**

**13 reasons to vote No on the unconstitutional Same Sex marriage bill**

1. Would further the rampant spread of AIDS and STD's in the Gay community to others especially children being taught that homosexual has no consequences and is lifestyle choice.(See details below\*)
2. Accommodations laws do not supersede the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights. It's against the constitution for Government to legislate laws against the freedom of religion and rights of conscience.
3. Sexual orientation is defined by the act of sex. No one has the right to have sex with anybody that they want to. So by definition it cannot be equivalent to a civil right. If Sexual orientation becomes a right than those who are oriented to have sex with non-consensual women or men (rape & sodomy), underage children (pedophile), family members (incest), animals (bestiality) claim it as civil right as well.
4. Negative unintended consequences to existing laws and businesses, education, family morals and many aspects of society are countless and irreparable.
5. Those who support this controversial and negative societal change might not be accountable to the majority of the people and the Democratic voting of the people but they will have to answer to God who mentions biblically that it would be better for them



to be thrown in the water with millstone tied to their neck then for them to cause the little ones to stumble towards evil and sin. So called Christians legislators are going to be held to a higher standard.

6. A very small fragment percentage of society will even use the law. All supposedly equal treatment and rights were already addressed in the Civil Unions and Reciprocal Beneficiaries bills passed into law. I guess the Homosexual lobbyists must have all been lying before about those laws they demand in the past.
7. Every cultural in the history of the world recognizes marriage between a man and a women, if they did they all began to be gay that culture would only exist for one generation and be gone to extinction.
8. Homosexuality is a major reason for Islamic Terrorism towards the United States.
9. Lawsuits and legal issues from this poorly written and unconstitutional bill and issue will tie down the legislature for years to come and cost the state millions of dollars.
10. Death threats and persecution of religious leaders and those opposing the homosexuality lobby would continue to go unpublished, unaddressed and flourish in the light of political correctness. Hate crimes and prejudice will continue to increase against Christian law abiding citizens.
11. The bill is poorly written contradicting itself when it eliminates the use of gender based terms like Husband and Wife on page 4 line 21 but then uses the terms on page 8 line 1.
12. The bill is discriminatory on the basis of race and ethnicity since page 7 lines 3-5 state that “The respective parties do not stand in relation to each other of ancestor and descendent of any degree whatsoever.” So those you are of the same race and ancestry it will not allow be able to marry. Filipino to Filipino, Japanese to Japanese, Hawaiian to Hawaiian, etc.  
Definition of descendent: **a person considered as descended from some ancestor or race**
13. This bill illegally creates a tax on not profit Churches without stating in the Bills title as is required.

**SB1**, the gay marriage bill to be considered in a special legislative session beginning October 28, contains within it an implied finding that marriage-related church functions, until now regarded as non-profit, will be considered a ‘for-profit’ activity. As a result, state and possibly federal taxes will be imposed on previously tax-exempt revenues generated on or after the bill’s effective date of November 18, 2013. This will apply to all churches generating marriage-related revenue -- whether or not they accept gay marriage.

**SB1** is also incorrect in form because it does not mention taxation in the bill title or description. The word “tax” appears nowhere in the text of the bill. The [Hawaii Legislators’ Handbook](#) points out: “A (bill) title must include a distinct reference to the subject matter to which it relates and also cover but one subject.”

## \* Physical Consequences of Homosexual Behavior

### STDs

Every year, according to the John A. Burns School of Medicine, University of Hawaii, homosexual males must be tested for:

- HIV
- HSV
- Syphilis\*
- Rectal Gonorrhea
- Rectal Chlamydia
- Urethral CT & GC
- Pharyngeal Gonorrhea

\*As of March 10, 2010, the Center for Disease Control reported 91-173 cases of syphilis per 100,000 men who have sex with men, compared to two cases per 100,000 other men, and one case per 100,000 women.<sup>1</sup>

In addition to being tested for STDs, homosexual males that have multiple partners which is about 97% of all homosexual males, every three to six months, the John Burns School of Medicine recommends that they are tested for Methamphetamine use.

## SB1 Would Impose New Tax on Churches—Even if they Accept Gay Marriage



SB1, the gay marriage bill to be considered in a special legislative session beginning October 28, contains within it an implied finding that marriage-related church functions, until now regarded as non-profit, will be considered a 'for-profit' activity. As a result, state and possibly federal taxes will be imposed on previously tax-exempt revenues generated on or after the bill's effective date of November 18, 2013. This will apply to all churches generating marriage-related revenue -- whether or not they accept gay marriage.

The impact stems from the fact that revenue-generating activities which are, in the [words of the IRS](#), "substantially related to the charitable, educational, or other purpose that is the basis of the organization's exemption" are deemed to be non-profit tax-exempt revenues. Weddings performed by churches have consistently been deemed to be in furtherance of the legally recognized charitable purpose of churches organized as 501c3 non-profit corporations. SB1 would change that by legally identifying these as for-profit revenues which are therefore subject to taxation.

The [text at issue](#) reads:

5572-F 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.

For purposes of this section, a religious organization accepting donations from the public, providing religious services to the public, or otherwise permitting the public to enter the religious organization's premises shall not constitute "for a profit."

A legal finding that such activities are no longer a non-profit function in means that all churches generating more than \$1000 in marriage-related revenue will be required to file [Form 990-T](#). Churches anticipating a tax liability in excess of \$500 will be required to pay estimated "[Unrelated Business Income Tax](#)" (UBIT) payments on a quarterly basis with [form 990-W](#). The first state and federal estimated tax payment for 2014 will be due April 15, 2014 along with a check for federal UBIT taxes for revenues generated after November 18, 2013. State corporate income taxes for 2013 would be due April 20, 2014.

[SB1](#) is also incorrect in form because it does not mention taxation in the bill title or description. The word "tax" appears nowhere in the text of the bill. The [Hawaii Legislators' Handbook](#) points out: "A (bill) title must include a distinct reference to the subject matter to which it relates and also cover but one subject."

## IN STRONG OPPOSITION to SB1

I'm writing in regards to the marriage act that is to be heard in a special session on Oct. 28, 2013.

I noticed that during Monday's testimony, Clayton Hee tried to separate a church facility with a persons ability to worship. My church building is my house of worship. It is a holy place to me and I treat as a sacred place. To try and separate the facility from the religion in an effort to say that our religious freedom is protected is sneaky and bogus!

The wording of this bill intentionally leaves opportunities to go after churches, individuals and businesses who by their own free will and choice disagree with same sex marriage. This bill is however made to appear that we are safe guarded. If you have educated yourself about this bill, this should be very clear to you. Please do not violate our rights, guaranteed by the first amendment, masked by the term, "equality." Look no further than our national news outlets to see the countless business and individuals who are being terrorized, harassed, sued and forced to shut down because of intimidation by those supporting this type bill.

The gay community which supposedly champions anti-hate has somehow convinced many of you that disagreeing with them is somehow hateful. They are trying to call this a civil right. I don't understand how a person's sexual behavior is somehow attempting to be in the same category as a person's skin color or gender. They think nothing of calling us bigots and terrorizing people in the name of so-called "equality."

If this passes, you will be opening the flood gates for any person who feels an attraction to any person, whether it be a relative, child, multiple spouses, etc. If a gay person should be allowed to marry, why shouldn't a father and a daughter, or a man with multiple wives, etc. We live in a society where people feel that if something "feels good," then they should have it regardless of the consequences. If you pass this bill, you will see a continual decline of our society as we live in an "anything goes" type of lifestyle. Marriage was NOT invented by the government. It was always a faith based institution. Why then, is the government trying to hijack the meaning of marriage?

How do you explain to children who are already having maturation talks in school that while one of the talks relates to the body's reproductive system, a gay family entails a male placing his penis in the hole where your waste comes out. This bill is forcing the education system to teach children things that they are not mature enough to handle. Even grown ups can't quite get a handle on the physiology of it!

It terrifies me when I think of what is to come if this law goes into effect. When the civil union bill came up, the LGBT community and elected officials promised that it wasn't just a step to redefine marriage. Just as that lie is showing it's face now, it's scary and invokes a feeling of distrust when looking at the way this bill is being handled and the rush to move it along without much consideration.

All the ramifications need to be considered. Please vote no.

Thank you,  
Emmie Kia

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testifying in Person</b>
Iris K Tom	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Dear Honorable Rep Rhoads, Honorable Rep Luke, and House Judiciary/Finance Joint Committee, I oppose SB1, and the consequences that the bill will usher into our communities. I ask you to defer this bill to the regular session in January, 2014. Mahalo, Iris K. Tom 1301 Ala Hoku Place

October 29, 2013

Chair Rhodes, Chair Luke & Members of the Judiciary & Finance Committee,

I stand in opposition to SB1 because although revised, it still fails to protect individual First Amendment Rights to Religious Freedom.

I humbly ask you to vote NO on this bill and let the people of Hawaii decide as was done in 1998 when the majority of the people in Hawaii voted for the sacredness of marriage being originally reserved for one man and one woman.

I also ask that you abide by the democratic process that our country was founded on to address this bill in a general session instead of hastily making a decision with such widespread impact for generations to come, in a special session.

From my heart to yours, I ask that you to take a moment and reflect on the people who voted for you to be in office and let as many voices be heard before making this important decision.

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Delro John Rosco". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and address.

Delro J. Rosco  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

I strongly OPPOSE SB1

Marriage is between a man and a woman. If you allow same sex couples to marry, next will be incest relationships, polygamy, etc.

KAHANU KIA



Comments: Aloha, My Name is Robert William AhPuck. I OPPOSE this bill... There is NOTHING MUCH MORE I CAN SAY, OTHER THEN CLAYTON HEE YOU SHOULD FEEL ASHAMED OF YOURSELF! YOU TOLD MY MOTHER DONNETTE LORNA LEIMAMO MACHADO AHPUCK, that you would NEVER allow this. OUR WHOLE FAMILY VOTED FOR YOU! IN HOPE YOU WOULD KEEP YOUR WORD AND YOU HAVEN'T! PILAU.... SHAME ON YOU! WE TRUST YOU AND YOU LIE TO US! WE ARE FAMILY, AHPUCK OHANA from WAIPIO VALLEY... YOU BRING SHAME TO OUR NAME! WE CAN NOT CHANGE, our relation to each other, Because its in our blood. WE ARE FAMILY. I Talk this way CLAYTON HEE! Because we are Family, FAMILY VOICE THE TRUTH, EVEN THOUGH IT HURTS, BECAUSE WE LOVE YOU! YES! DESPITE OF YOUR BROKEN PROMISE, WE STILL ACCEPT YOU AND LOVE YOU! but we are sadden because of your broken word! Other PEOPLE in the Legislators OFFICE, i direct the rest of my letter to you! Takashi Ohno Tom Brauer Derek Kawakami Jo Jordan John Mizuno Linda Ichiyama Justin Woodson ARE YOU WILLING TO MAKE A DECISION FOR THE WHOLE STATE OF HAWAII? Your Children, Your Great Grand Children, and so on? YOU CAN NOT, AND WILL NOT COMPREHEND YOUR DECISION... Think of your parents! Your Grandparents, YOUR GREAT Grandparents... Would they be Happy with your choice? I SAY, LET THE PEOPLE of HAWAII DECIDE! CLAYTON HEE has already broken his word... LET THE PEOPLE CHOOSE! you know deep down inside this is NOT RIGHT! you was all raised by good moms and dads... RESPECT THEM! HONOR YOUR NAME! HAVE THE PEOPLE CHOOSE! THIS IS THE CORRECT THING TO DO & you KNOW IT! mahalo - Robert William AhPuck 330-6188

I strongly OPPOSE SB1

I DO NOT WANT SAME SEX EDUCATION TAUGHT IN MY SCHOOL. THERE IS NOTHING THERE THAT TALKS ABOUT HOW MY BODY WORKS IN RELATION TO THE REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM. ALL IT DOES IS EXPLAIN THE BEHAVIOR OF SAME SEX COUPLES. THERE IS NO PLACE FOR THAT IN EDUCATION.

VOTE NO ON SB1

MANA'O KIA

## HOUSE COMMITTEES ON JUDICIARY AND FINANCE

Hearing Date: October 31, 2013  
Hearing Time: 10:00 a.m.  
Place: State Capitol Auditorium

To: The Honorable Representative Karl Rhoads, Chair of Judiciary  
The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair of Finance

From: Tambry R. Young

Regarding: S.B. 1: RELATING TO EQUAL RIGHTS - Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT

Aloha Chairs Rhoads and Luke, and Members of the Judiciary and Finance Committees:

My name is Tambry Young and I am asking you to support the passage of SB1. I am a mother, a native Hawaiian born and raised in Hawaii, a small business owner and have been committed to Suzanne for the past 32 years. On November 13, 1999 Suzanne and I, along with our families and many friends, celebrated the birth of our daughter Shylar. Before we had Shylar, Suzanne and I, as most LGBT couples, went about our lives, finishing college, building our professional careers, participating in organized community activities, basically living our lives supporting each other and maturing together.

In 1996, Suzanne and I decided that we wanted to have a child. This decision came with much thought and consideration - what options we had in conceiving her, how we would raise her, could we financially handle having a child, and what would she face as a child being raised by two mothers. For many couples who decide to have children, some of these questions may be similar. For Suzanne and me, the primary considerations were how do we ensure the safety and well-being of Shylar. From the moment she was conceived we began looking into what we needed to do to accomplish this.

In 1999, we began the legal process of a same-sex co-parent adoption, which would give both the biological parent, me, and the same gender non-biological parent, Suzanne, the same parental rights to Shylar. We assumed this process would take many years, because at that time there had been only one other case in Hawaii that had

taken place. Our hope was that by the time Shylar began kindergarten, a decision giving us a same gender co-parent adoption would be granted. Fortunately after careful consideration by the Family Court judge in 2000, we were granted the adoption. At this point we believed we had become a family just like everyone else.

However, this was not the case. In many instances we would have to show Shylar's birth certificate to show parental status. Carrying around her birth certificate was essential to show our status. While in emergency situations, we have been denied joint access to Shylar because authorities said they only allow parents in the room at the same time. While the few paragraphs above may seem off topic, the discussion of our real life experiences is important to the understanding of what is being considered in SB1.

I am fully aware of, and can accept how many people feel that it is a lifestyle choice or that it goes against their religious beliefs. I can also give you my thoughts on why this was not a choice for me and religious scholars can give you passages within the context of religion supporting the passage of this bill. But I am sure you have heard it all before. My justification for the passage of SB1 comes from a very simple place, from the eyes of our daughter.

On November 7<sup>th</sup> 2009, after 28 years together and with Shylar who was 9 at the time, Suzanne and I were married in Salem, Massachusetts. During the 2009 fight for Civil Unions (CU) here in Hawaii, our focus was about securing the rights, benefits, responsibilities and protections that would be provided in a CU law.

Shylar attended legislative hearings, rallies and meetings relating to the CU movement at that time and our discussions with her focused on why it was important that families like ours received all the rights that other families received. We believed that Shylar felt we were just like all the other families in her class and we believed she felt that her family was being treated like all the other families in her class.



However, on November 8<sup>th</sup> the day after we were married in Massachusetts we purchased an item at a Boston mall and Shylar questioned Suzanne about why she was not signing her name as Suzanne Young because we got married yesterday and we are all Young's now. This is when we realized that being married meant more than just being granted rights; it was, to Shylar, a symbol of what made us a family.

Shylar is now 13 and turning 14 in November and celebrated the passage of CU in 2011, with many here in Hawaii. As we have seen her grow and mature into a teenager we know that she realizes our marriage is not being treated the same as others and unfortunately, she is aware of the difference between a civil union and a marriage.

Throughout this current marriage equality movement there has been discussion about the negative impact of it on children. I can assure you that the impact of the passage of marriage equality in Hawaii for our daughter would only be positive. For Shylar, passage of this law would validate her family, would make her feel she is just like other families in her class and uphold the principles of civil rights that she is currently studying.

Again I ask for your support of SB1, and thank you for the opportunity to testify on this law that will have a major impact on Suzanne and me, and a very positive impact on our daughter Shylar.

## HOUSE COMMITTEES ON JUDICIARY AND FINANCE

Hearing Date: October 31, 2013  
Hearing Time: 10:00 a.m.  
Place: State Capitol Auditorium

To: The Honorable Representative Karl Rhoads, Chair of Judiciary  
The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair of Finance

From: Shylar K. Young

Regarding: S.B. 1: RELATING TO EQUAL RIGHTS - Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT

Aloha Chairs Rhoads and Luke, and Members of the Judiciary and Finance Committees:

My name is Shylar Young and I am 13 years old. My parents are Tambry and Suzanne Young. My moms have been together for 32 years. But because they weren't granted the same benefits that are given to straight married couples, our family had to pay an extra \$1500 to the government this year. That may not seem like a lot to you, but to me that's a lot of money. And if you multiply that by the 4 years that I've been here with my moms fighting for our rights, that's \$6000!

So how does my family paying more to the government, and my moms living happily as a married couple hurt the people who don't support us? I don't think it hurts them at all but it really hurts me and my moms. So what if their kids will have to learn and accept it in school – families like mine are already in our schools and you know what, we all get along.

My moms love each other regardless. Nothing will stop them from loving one another. How does our family's happiness and love affect those who are against us? This shouldn't even be an argument! Marriage is between two people that love each other. It's not something that should be put to a vote. By allowing my moms to be considered married in Hawaii it will only give them what every other straight married couple has. All we ask is to have all the rights, protections and responsibilities that every other straight, married couple has.

When we were up in Massachusetts recently, no one cared. It didn't affect their lives like how some people are saying it would. We met many people that have congratulated my moms for their marriage. They don't care anymore, it's just part of life for them. In fact, a lot of the people we met thought we had marriage already in Hawaii.

Many of the people against marriage equality believe that I will be weird, but how would they know. They don't know me. What they are doing is a type of bullying. Why are grown men and women bullying a 13 year old girl? They do not know me; they just assume that I will be weird. So tell me how weird is it that I am a member of the National Honor Society, have a 4.0 GPA,

and my first film was in the Hawaii International Film Festival and is being considered for the New York Film Festival. Gee how weird is that?

Singers Macklemore and Ryan Lewis said “we live in a world so hateful some would rather die than be who they are.” What this means is because of those who bully gay people and make them feel it’s bad to be gay when it’s not, they feel so much hurt they kill themselves. And do you know what the Bible says, “thou shall not kill”. Therefore if we are considered evil for just loving one another, I wonder how evil they are for making people feel like they need to kill themselves.

I really don’t understand what’s the big deal! And neither do many of my friends.

So what if a man and a man love each other, it’s none of any of our business. Right now what it seems to be is that the people going against us are just trying to cause drama. That’s it. There’s no reason how having two people of the same sex love each other should be such a big deal. It’s rude, it’s crazy, and it’s just not necessary for those who oppose same-sex marriage to fear it. It’s none of their business how our family lives. But it is the government’s business to ensure our family is treated the same as all other families and that we are provided equal rights under the law as required by the US Constitution.

And so I ask you to support families like mine and vote to pass this marriage equality bill. Thank you.



## HOUSE COMMITTEES ON JUDICIARY AND FINANCE

Hearing Date: October 31, 2013  
Hearing Time: 10:00 a.m.  
Place: State Capitol Auditorium

To: The Honorable Representative Karl Rhoads, Chair of Judiciary  
The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair of Finance

From: Suzanne K. Young

Regarding: S.B. 1: RELATING TO EQUAL RIGHTS - Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT

Aloha Chairs Rhoads and Luke, and Members of the Judiciary and Finance Committees:

My name is Suzanne Young and my partner, Tambry, and I have been together for the last 32 years and in 2009 we were married in Massachusetts because Hawaii did not allow us to be married.

I've heard people say that this issue can wait until 2014 to be heard in the regular legislative session. That's easy for them to say because it doesn't affect them. But it affects me, my family and other families like mine and it's important that you pass this legislation today.

Here's one reason why. I have family medical coverage through my employer and it includes both Tambry and our daughter Shylar. Because the federal government does not recognize our marriage, I have only been able to benefit from the pre-tax savings for Shylar and my portion of our health insurance premium, but not Tambry's portion.

Once the Supreme Court's ruling in the Windsor case came out this past June and the IRS confirmed that the tax benefits would apply to our out-of-state marriage, my company was able to adjust my pre-tax savings to include Tambry's portion. The savings for our family amounted to about \$1500 for this year alone. I was shocked to learn that it was so much. This tax benefit provides savings not only for our family but also for my company as well. The \$1500 we saved this year is money that we put back into the economy and allowed us to enjoy a family vacation.

We were lucky that the IRS ruled that our Massachusetts marriage would qualify us for the benefit in Hawaii. But unfortunately our LGBT families only have the ability to enter into a civil union in Hawaii and are not eligible for this tax benefit. By passing SB1 before the end of this year, you have the power to grant these families **and their employers** this financial benefit that can be retroactively applied to January 1<sup>st</sup> premiums. If just 20 LGBT families take advantage of this benefit this year, you will have more than paid for the cost of this special session.

While I am relieved that the IRS tax issues have been settled for our family, we are still waiting for word from the Social Security Administration. I am the primary breadwinner for our family and if I were to die before November 18, the proposed effective date of SB1, Shylar and Tambry would be significantly affected because Tambry would not be eligible for my Social Security benefits.

So please vote in favor of passing SB1 today and help ensure security and basic protections for LGBT families in Hawaii and provide financial benefits to both LGBT families and their employers. Please help end the stress and worry that we face every single day we go without marriage equality which provides these vital protections. Mahalo.

I strongly OPPOSE SB1

I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THIS IS AN EQUALITY OR CIVIL RIGHTS ISSUE. LIKE IT OR NOT, MEN AND WOMEN ARE DIFFERENT. GAY COUPLES SHOULD NOT BE MARRIED IN THE NAME OF EQUALITY. THEY ARE TREATED EQUAL. IF MY MOM BUYS MY BROTHER UNDERWEAR, EQUALITY DOESN'T MEAN THAT SHE HAS TO BUYS ME UNDERWEAR TOO! WE ARE EQUAL IN OUR RIGHTS, BUT DIFFERENT. AS A PERSON OF COLOR WAS INCLUDED IN THE EQUAL RIGHTS MOVEMENT BECAUSE THEY WERE BEING JUDGED NEGATIVELY ON SOMETHING THAT THEY ARE INHERENTLY. THIS BILL IS ASKING US TO LOOK MORE CLOSELY AT A PERSON'S SEXUAL BEHAVIOR. HOW IS THIS A HUMAN RIGHT????

VOTE NO ON SB1

SINOI KIA

# Loren D. Anderson

91-1006 Waiko'ihi Street • KaMakana at Hoakalei • Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706 •

Telephone/Fax (808) 681-3232 • E-mail: [ladyvalledor@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:ladyvalledor@hawaii.rr.com)

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

To: The Hawaii State House, 27<sup>th</sup> Legislature of 2013  
Chairmen Karl Rhoads and Sylvia Luke, Vice Chairs Sharon E. Har, Scott Y. Nishimoto, Aaron Ling  
Johanson  
All Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Finance

Re: OPPOSE Senate Bill S.B. 1 – “RELATING TO EQUAL RIGHTS” and all related bills legitimizing  
homosexuality or same sex marriage.  
Hearing, Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 10:00 AM. in the Auditorium  
State Capitol, 415 So. Beretania St., Honolulu, HI 96813

## **I WISH TO GIVE AN ORAL TESTIMONY IN PERSON.**

My name is Loren Anderson. I'm a voter and resident since 1967. If you pass SB1 you are not simply creating economic equity for same sex (SS) couples, you are encouraging and endorsing SS relationships for the generations that are coming. Have you witnessed the gender confusion and SS experimentation that is currently taking place in our youth? Does it trouble you? It should.

SS intercourse is easily identified as at risk behavior. I donate blood to the Hawaii Blood Bank regularly. If you have done this, you are familiar with the questions that are asked before you donate to determine that your blood can safely be added to the bank. A significant number of these questions are regarding homosexual behavior. Why is this? It is because there is transfer of blood and HIV risks associated with homosexual intercourse. Can't you see the real dangers and wicked leadership to Hawaii's youth that this step in social engineering is producing? The vast majority of our children that try SS encounters are casually experimenting. The confusion and health risks are real and your passage of SB1 would lead generations to come into harms way. This evil is real. HIV decimates the homosexual community, according to the Center for Disease Control "Gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men (MSM) accounted for 78% of new HIV in 2010 and was greatest among the youngest age group.\* By the way they have stopped publishing or keeping this public health data because of "anti-discrimination" issues since 2010. HIV is considered an "epidemic" by the Center for Disease Control and your endorsing the homosexual lifestyle in passing SB1 would lead the people of Hawaii into at risk behavior, even while the statistical realities of the dangers are being suppressed by anti discrimination pressure from the Gay agenda.

Another statistical reality that is covered up is the rarity of monogamy among homosexual couples. Marriage is sanctioned as a life long covenant of sexual fidelity and commitment to one person. The SS community does not view it this way (See Phycology Today, "Love Without Limits" \*\* April 16, 2013).

In the San Francisco Chronicle a study by Colleen Hoff at the Center for Research on Gender and Sexuality of San Francisco State University states "monogamy in even committed homosexual relationships is rare." A report comparing the lifestyles of committed Homosexual couples to Married Couples by the Family Research Council\*\*\* showed significant differences with 25% of heterosexual couples experiencing infidelities compared to 95.5% of committed homosexual male couples. They have coined a new word for this, "polyamory" or New Monogamy. In the 1960's it was called open marriage and it led to a whole lot of family hurt--especially to children, and it was discarded for the loveless form of sexual self-indulgence that it is. Marriage is about sacrifice and learning to love, growing away from self-centeredness. Loving across the gender differences with faithfulness and parenting children.

Don't let marriage be defiled or diluted. Create a Hawaii that will be good for our children's children. Vote against SB1.

\* <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/statistics/basics/ata glance.html>

\*\* <http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/love-without-limits/201309/polyamory-sex-roles-and-the-gender-trap>

\*\*\* <http://www.frc.org/get.cfm?i=IS04C02>

To: The House Judiciary and Finance Committees.

My name is Max Fowler. I am a pastor at Kakaako Christian Fellowship and I am in opposition to SB 1.

As a strong believer in our democracy, I am very concerned by the way our government is handling this extremely important and sensitive issue. Our Governor could address a Same Sex Marriage bill during the Regular Session in January, but has instead chosen to rush it and do it in Special Session - a blow to the democratic process in our state.

The people of Hawaii don't have time to understand the ramifications of this bill upon our society...

The rushed nature of this bill increases the likelihood that individual and religious freedoms will eventually be challenged in courts and in the Hawaii Civil Rights Commission, and I'm not just talking about pastors and churches, but also adoption agencies, government workers, judges - as well as teachers, students and parents in our educational system.

Many local people have the perception that through the Special Session, the Governor is ramming this bill down the throats of Hawaii's people.

Shouldn't a bill this important to Hawaii's future be vetted more thoroughly and given more time for Hawaii's citizens to have a say in THEIR government?

The obvious answer is "Yes." There is no reason why this legislation cannot wait until January.

"A remedy delayed is a remedy denied" and federal tax benefits are simply not wise enough reasons to rush this legislation that could lead to major unintended consequences we can't see or understand right now.

With an issue this important, we should have more time for ALL of Hawaii's people to learn more and participate in the democratic process.

In conclusion, Hawaii's people have already voted in 1998 to give the power to the leg to keep marriage between a man and a woman only. Well, that's what "We The People" of Hawaii thought we were voting on!

Turns out we gave power to our elected officials to do the exact opposite of what the people overwhelmingly voted for - allowing the legislature to redefine the traditional definition of marriage - going against the will of the people.

I believe this Special Session could be the final straw where many of Hawaii's citizens completely lose their faith in our political system, if they haven't yet already. But, by moving this issue into the Regular Session in January, you have an incredible opportunity to hear from all of Hawaii's people, not just a small, vocal minority, (most of those who have been transplanted from the mainland.) By your actions you can start to win back the people's trust in their government because we will see that you are willing to listen; willing to debate; willing to give the people a chance to participate in democracy to its fullest extent - not just the bare minimum.

Can you hear the voices of so many in Hawaii who feel like they are being shut out of the democratic process because of this Special Session?

For the sake of our democratic process, hear the people and please vote to "NO" on SB 1.

Thank you.

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testifying in Person</b>
Misi Alisa Smith	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I oppose this bill wholeheartedly. My position on the issue of same-sex marriage is irrelevant. The rights of churches to practice what they preach will be severely impacted if this bill passes. Freedom of religion is precious in this state and it always has been. You cannot force a church to perform a same-gender marriage if their faith forbids it, any more than you should try to force an Orthodox Jew to serve bacon or a practicing Mormon to drink coffee. There may very well be nothing "wrong" with bacon or coffee, but your forcing them to accept it? That's despicable. The stark lack of protections in this legislation is frightening. Any legislator supporting it is supporting a direct attack on freedom.



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

Jean Au

HOUSE COMMITTEES ON JUDICIARY AND FINANCE

Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m., Capitol Auditorium

Chairs Rhoads and Luke, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Jean Au. I was born and raised in Hawaii and am a resident of Kailua, happily married and a mother to 3 beautiful children.

I am opposed to Bill SB1 because I believe no one has the right to redefine marriage. Marriage is one of the most important institutions of society.

In a community which is already facing pressures maintaining stability in marriage and family life, this could be disastrous. Allowing same sex marriage would introduce more uncertainty and instability to our state. In fact, sooner or later marriage could no longer be seen as necessary.

In 2004, Massachusetts became the first state to legalize same sex marriage. By 2006, two years later, only 52% of same sex couples even bothered to marry. In the Netherlands, the same sex marriage rate is only 12%. To me this sounds like marriage is not really what the LGBT community is after.

As Senator Sam Slom said, "The LGBT community asked for reciprocal benefits in 1997. It was granted to them. Then in 2011, they wanted civil unions, they got it. Now they want same sex marriage. Will they be satisfied with that? I don't think so."

The way that SB1 is currently written there is lots of room for interpretation by the courts - room for 1<sup>st</sup> amendment rights of freedom of religion to be overridden.

Please do not allow this faulty bill to pass. Please have the foresight and courage to vote no.

October 28, 2013

To: Karl Rhoads, Chair, House Judiciary Committee and Sylvia Luke, Chair, House Finance Committee

From: Francis Sith Chantavong

Re: In **Strong OPPOSITION to SB1**, relating to "Equal Rights"

Hearing Day&Date: Thursday, Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>

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

As a voting citizen of the United States of America and the State of Hawaii, I am in **STRONG OPPOSITION** to SB1, relating to Equal Rights.

I believe it is our right as voting citizens to allow this issue to be voted on BY THE PEOPLE and not in a special session that circumvents the Democratic process.

Please do our government and people justice and LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE!

Thank you,

Francis Sith Chantavong

Date: Oct. 30, 2013

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

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

My name is Glenn V. Butler. I reside at 87-320 Kulawae Street, Waianae, HI 96792. As a family man, having served in the U.S. Army for 23 years, and a resident of the State of Hawaii, I stand in opposition to SB 1 Relating to Equality.

I am one of two children born to my parents in Cleveland, Ohio. Today, I am married, and have seven (7) children of my own. Some of whom are also married, and also have children of their own!

My purpose in mentioning this is not to rehearse, in part, my family lineage. But to demonstrate that, if it were not for my parents being a man and a woman, and my wife and I being a man and a woman, and my married children being married to the opposite sex, it would not be possible for me, or my children, or their children to exist!

Sir, I even submit that somewhere along your lineage, you, your children, your children's children, and so on, would also cease to exist were it not for marriage of the opposite sexes! Had a bill like this been passed before our existence, I daresay that you and I might not even be alive to consider such a bill today!

Honorable Chair, and members of the Committee, as I review your membership, I believe that many of you were raised with the same societal morals and values that were normal during our upbringing. No argument or doubt that norms have changed, and are being challenged for more change as time progresses. I believe that change in many areas of our lives is inevitable. But I also believe that all change is not beneficial or good.

In the final analysis, SB1 is not just about equality. Throughout the history of mankind, there are numerous examples of the complete destruction of societies allowing or adopting the same-sex way of life. Although I believe it's in-part because of declining morals of the society. It is also all too obvious that where there is no pro-creation between same sexes, population also declines...eventually to non-existence!

That's not the end-purpose for which I honorably served in the armed forces of my country. Nor the reason that I nurtured and raised a family in the this country. Nor the reason I reside in the State of Hawaii. Where I decided to retire, continue raising my family, and productively serve in the community I reside. Where the State Motto says "The Life of the Land is Perpetuated in Righteousness"!

As an African-American, I can give a heartfelt, fully-documented testimony of the inequality and injustices suffered by others of my race, as well as by other minorities in this country...and in this State. But in all of those cases, I cannot see where the morals and values of a people, even though challenged, were changed to suit or support the views of a few over the good of the masses.

The United States of America, and the State of Hawaii, is made up of a diversified group of people. Many races. Many cultures. Many ideas and philosophies. In my lifetime, I've depended upon our leaders to decide what's best for the masses. Understanding that everyone is not going to be satisfied with how things go. I submit that, although an honorable endeavor, it's an impossible task to please everyone. It's been the same in my household. As well as every area of my life, both personally and professionally.

You are the governing body in whom it's been entrusted the ability to make decisions which will affect the quality of life for my family and I, and the people of Hawaii. Being a servant of people, I understand the importance of knowing the heartbeat of the people. Thereby being able to make decisions that will provide the quality of life that the 'voice of the people' have expressed is desired for them.

I remind you of your responsibility to the people as a whole. Not just to a few that have special interests that will not benefit the whole. With all due respect, if it's not clear to you what it is that the people of the State of Hawaii want in regards to SB 1 on Equality. Then vote NO on this issue during this special session. And let the people have the opportunity to vote and decide on SB 1. Thank you.

Sincerely,

GLENN V. BUTLER

CONCERNED CITIZEN

MSG (RET) ARMY

A lot has been made about this proposal being an issue of equality. This stems from confusion between equality and sameness. Everyone is already equal in regards to marriage. Any man may marry any woman and any woman may marry any man. This is equality. Men are equal yet opposite of women, much like the action and reaction of Newton's Third Law of Motion. But to say men are the same as women is lunacy. Therefore, men shouldn't be allowed to marry the same people that women can, simply people that are the opposite yet equal. Furthermore, marriage is not and has never been a civil right. It is a privilege. Unlike rights, privileges need not be made the same for everyone. This bill doesn't establish a civil right, just an unnecessary social privilege. A privilege your constituents don't want. As public servants, you are sworn to serve the public. The public has spoken. Don't vote yes to this bill. Thank you.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE TWENTY SEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION OF 2013

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Rep. Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Rep. Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair  
Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair

HEARING DATE: Thursday, October 31, 2013

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

PLACE: Auditorium

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

RE: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

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

My name is Stephanie Cuyno, a registered voter and resident of Wahiawa. I've been married 42 years, and have two children and two grandchildren. I believe in traditional marriage between one man and one woman, and do not believe marriage should be redefined to include same-sex marriage.

I think this Special Session process is being rushed and as a result inaccurate data is being reported. I personally submitted written testimony and requested time to give oral testimony on Monday, October 28<sup>th</sup>. I arrived at 9:15am and waited for four hours in the auditorium for my turn. When I left at 1:15pm, Group 3 was about to be called (I was in Group 4). I was unable to stay to give my oral testimony as I was part of a group leaving from Our Lady of Sorrows Church in Wahiawa by bus, to attend the rally at the State Capitol in support of traditional marriage. My being present for four hours to give testimony was never recorded. In addition, I personally submitted to Senator Clayton Hee's office, Chair of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor, 209 testimonies from Our Lady of Sorrows Church parishioners. When we checked today, October 29<sup>th</sup>, only 165 testimonies were counted. In addition, the cover letter accompanying the 209 testimonies was not included with the testimonies.

This Special Session is seemingly giving the people of Hawaii an opportunity to oppose or agree with SB1; however in my experience, the process is flawed. If SB 1 passes the House, I believe that the people who voiced their opposition were disregarded. The decision we made ten years ago should remain unchanged. If it is to be changed, let the people decide by fair vote.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit my testimony on SB 1.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Cuyno  
1975 Alai Place #E, Wahiawa, HI 96786

## TESTIMONY OPPOSING SB1

10/30/2013

Good Morning/Afternoon to all

My name is Sione T. Lavulavu, I am from Hauula and I STRONGLY OPPOSE SB1 and the use of our tax dollars for this unnecessary special session. This issue is causing a huge rift amongst our Ohana, if passed SB1 will hurt churches, businesses, and individuals across the state.

The real reason for this session is because our elected officials don't trust the people. That's right you don't trust us. If you supported this special session or this bill you are slapping every one of your constituents in the face. You simply don't trust those who voted you in to make an informed decision.

Regardless of how you feel personally it is your obligation to remember where the power lies, IT IS IN THE PEOPLE NOT THE PRIVILEGED FEW. We have broke roads, broke kahuku high school, broke economy, and broke families and none of that took priority?

Let the people decide on marriage and not the privileged few. Let's quit the games and LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE ON MARRIAGE. I strongly oppose SB1 and Urge you all to LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE! Thank you for your time!

With love,

Sione T. Lavulavu



To: The House Judiciary Committee  
The House Finance Committee  
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.  
Place: Capitol Auditorium  
Re: Opposition to SB1

Dear Chairs Rhoads and Luke, and Members of both the House Committees on Judiciary and Finance:

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify against the referenced bill.

The issue at hand is not about any of us. It's about God. He says No to what the referenced bill proposes.

"For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due."  
—Romans 1:26-27 (NKJV)

"Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God."  
—1 Corinthians 6:9-10 (NKJV)

"Do not have sexual relations with a man as one does with a woman; that is detestable." Leviticus 18:22 (NIV)  
We are all sinners. However, to make lawful what God defines as unlawful is to welcome curses on all of us. "Woe to those who call evil good and good evil..."(Isaiah 5:20, Deuteronomy 28).

The reason why so many people in Hawaii are passionately against this bill is because it violates what is sacred to us.

This is the only bill that is in direct opposition to God's Word.

Please vote No to the same sex marriage bill.

Respectfully,  
Suzanne Nakano

Karl Rhoads, Chair

Sylvia Luke, Chair

House Judiciary Committee

House Finance Committee

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

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

I am writing in strong opposition to SB 1 for the following reasons:

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. I point out the fact that in States where same-sex marriages are NOT recognized, such couples find it more difficult to file for a Divorce.

The burden is upon the Federal Government to extend Federal benefits of Marriage to those in Civil Unions, as well as Domestic Partnerships.

2) **There are Social Implications**, whether intended or not, hat have YET to be explored and considered. Should same-sex marriage become Law, our Public Education system must adapt their practices and curriculum to conform:

A) **Sexual Education**. As pointed out by others citing Canada and Massachusetts: Will parents be allowed advanced notice of homosexual curriculum being taught in the classroom? Will they be allowed to opt their children out of such programs?

B) **Gender Identity**. Shall Schools allow exceptions to grant access to Girls' Facilities for boys who merely claim to identify as female? If not, will schools be required to build additional facilities for such children?

and

3) **Boundaries of Marriage**. If the purposes of Marriage under the law is to provide reciprocal benefits between two Consenting Adults, and NOT to encourage Healthy sexual or reproductive

behavior, it stands to reason that the Legal Definition of Marriage should have NONE of the socially established boundaries imposed, and should legally apply equally to ANY two consenting adults - including those with an existing first-order genetic relationship (parent/child, siblings, etc.)

To conclude, we are talking about a large, Socially Divisive issue, whose outcome will have far-reaching impacts upon our Society. Given all that we are setting out to change, is it too much to ask for us to take a step back, let cooler heads prevail, and have a proper dialogue and exploration of this subject? Five days in a Special Session is not enough time to vet out the consequences. "Ready-Fire-Aim" is not the way to proceed on this socially divisive matter.

To whom it may concern,

I would like to start by saying that I am in strong opposition to same-sex marriage. Marriage is between one man and one woman. The supporters of this are living self-proclaimed "alternative lifestyles". They have chosen of their own will to go against God and to go against society. I find it offensive that supporters of this bill use *Loving v. Virginia* as a basis for their argument. As a product of an interracial marriage that mirrors the 1967 case, I can tell you that there are substantial differences between the two. First and foremost, being born black is not an alternative lifestyle. Blacks did not choose to be slaves, lynched or any of the other less brutal ways that they were demeaned as a race for centuries. Secondly, marriage has always been defined as between one man and one woman regardless of race. No matter what the beliefs are, the man has always been seen as the head of the household. How then can two men be together? Two men together means two heads. One need not be a horror scholar to know that anything with two heads is most certainly a monster.

I am troubled about what this means for the future of our state and nation. Will people walk around talking about their two dads? Who is going to teach the young women about tampons, bras, and other feminine issues in a two man household? Who will talk to the young men about puberty and being a man in a two woman house? See, there is a reason for the order of a husband and a wife. These same-sex couples will have to outsource for information. I think that the impact on our schools will be serious if teachers are forced to teach about homosexuality as well. Are we really prepared for the conversations we will have with our children?

Another issue is what will be accepted next? People picking and choosing who they feel like being a man or a woman? Maybe they are Steve today and then Sally tomorrow. How far do we allow people to express themselves? This is spiraling out of control and we must take a stand now before it is too late.

All 50 states see prostitution as a crime. This is not limited to just those being forced to prostitute. I cannot legally go have sex for money. This law is saying that I do not have the authority over my body to do things that are seen as morally questionable. Yet, we are going to not only allow this morally questionable behavior of the LGBT to continue and offer them the sacred right of marriage? If they want to live alternative lifestyles, then they need to pick an alternative route to seal their lust and leave the traditional marriage alone.

Sincerely,

Adam Bartlett

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Philip Nasca	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I'm opposed to the so called marriage equality bill because of the negative impact it will have on our families; especially our children. I come from a broken home as a result my dad who raised us was away from home for long periods because he had to work extra hours to support our 6 children. When I was a young man in my early twenties I was lured away from my home in New York by an older male who was homosexual. He told me he could help me realize my goals and that he only wanted to help me. Once in Hawaii, thousands of miles from home with no family or friends he began to lure me in. We'd smoke dope, he provide me with pornography take me to strip clubs. It all lead to his continual attempts to engage me in sex with him. He tried to convince me that I was latently "gay". I finally got away from him and became a Christian. When I read the Bible I saw that my immoral sexual behavior had lead me down a dark path. God completely changed my heart and freed me from these immoral desires. I've been married 28 years and have raised 5 wonderful children who are fine young men & women. I could not imagine my life without anyone of them, it's been a tremendous joy to be their father and to have such a wonderful wife! I think back on those earlier days and realize had I listened to that man and believed that I was "gay" none of these fine children would be here today. If this bill passes , against the will of the people, will the Legislator guarentee that our right to conscientiously object to our children and grandchildren being indoctrinated with the homosexual world view will not be infringed upon? Will you protect our rights to free speech and our right to practice our Christian faith to teach our children that God created marriage and that it can only be between 1 man and 1 woman? Will you protect our right to not do business with those same sex couples who want to be married? I have no problem allowing my fellow citizens to express their beliefs regarding the validity of homosexual practices but I want assurances that you will protect my right to openly express that the Biblical world view that both Hawaii & America were founded on teaches us that True liberty has moral boundries and any sex outside of marriage between 1 man & 1 woman is sinful? I want to remind the Legislators that you took an oath to uphold and defend the Constitution agaisnt all enemies foreign and domestic. If you pass this bill and we loose our right to free speech, free association, and religous freedom then you will be violating your oath. Consequently then you must vote no on this bill.

**To:** The House Judiciary Committee  
The House Finance Committee

**Hearing Date/Time:** Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.

**Place:** Capitol Auditorium

**Re:** Strong Opposition to SB1

Dear Chairs Rhoads and Luke, and Members of both of the House Committees on Judiciary and Finance:

I am writing to voice my opposition to Senate Bill 1.

I am opposed to this bill because it does not protect the citizens' rights of conscience and freedom of religion guaranteed under the U. S. Constitution. This bill, if passed, will force the residents of this state of Hawaii to conform to one rule of law without regard to the freedom of the individual to act according to the personal dictates of conscience and belief.

Residents of Hawaii should be given the opportunity to vote on this bill that has the potential to affect all major aspects of life in Hawaii pertaining to the rights of conscience and freedom of religion.

Because I support the rights of all of Hawaii's citizens, I am concerned that the very complex issues in this bill--including the issues of marriage, gender identity, rights of parenting, and the liability exemptions regarding same-sex marriage--and the social effects of these issues--are not being fully and carefully considered and measured in this bill. The complexity of these issues requires more thought and deliberation, and a rushed passage in a special legislative session does not provide this kind of consideration.

I am asking you to allow the people to decide by vote on all of the issues of SB 1, especially on the issues of marriage and on liability exemptions regarding same-sex marriage, as these issues impact matters of deep and individual personal belief, tradition, culture, custom, education, and livelihood, and should not be defined under one rule of law which this bill will require if it is passed.

This bill should be given due process during the regular legislative session when it can properly and carefully be examined and amended in a more considered way to better meet the needs of all of Hawaii's citizens. The people who elected you to serve as their voices should have a say in a public policy that will potentially affect all aspects of life in Hawaii.

A "yes" vote for SB 1 in special session is clearly a "NO" vote to rights of conscience and religious freedom.

I urge you to vote NO to SB 1.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Amanda A. B. Wallace  
Laie, Hawaii

Karl Rhoads, Chair  
House Judiciary Committee

Sylvia Luke, Chair  
House Finance Committee

**Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB1 RELATING TO EQUALITY**

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

I vehemently oppose SB1, HB6, and HB7 for five primary reasons, the first two of which, when properly considered, *must* necessarily terminate SB1:

1. SB1 provides weak protections for religious freedoms; (pg. 2)
2. The special session disenfranchises the electorate due process; (pg. 3)
3. Redefining marriage will reduce everyone’s religious freedoms; (pg. 4)
4. Redefining marriage will harm children, families, and society; and, (pg. 5-6)
5. It is contrary to my fundamental religious beliefs; and, (pg. 7)

I support HB12 as a necessary and appropriate measure to provide robust protections to religious rights if Same-Sex Marriage (SSM) is legalized.

I’ve included quotes from below sections as an executive summary:

“SB1 is so poorly written the SSM issue is moot – a vote in favor of SB1 is a clear, direct, and flagrant attack on the U.S. Constitution and religious freedoms.”

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“Society will increasingly view and treat those who support traditional marriage for religious reasons as bigoted or ignorant.”

“... [W]e insist upon our rights of civic engagement . . . Good government *demand*s participation from the people – on principle alone, you must halt SB1. Even if you favor SB1, to proceed with this mockery of our democratic-republic demonstrates contempt for your electorate and concerned constituency.”

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“Numerous empirical studies over many decades establish that children develop best when raised by a **father and a mother in a stable marriage relationship.**”

**IF THERE ARE AREAS IN THE LAW THAT NEED ADDRESSING SO THAT LOVING INDIVIDUALS CAN TAKE CARE OF ONE ANOTHER, OR HAVE EQUAL ACCESS TO MEDICAL FACILITIES, THEN THAT IS WHAT WE DO. WE DO NOT RE-DEFINE MARRIAGE.**  
(Senator Sam Sloan, JDL Hearing Remarks 10/28/13)

## **SB1 PROVIDES WEAK PROTECTIONS FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOMS**

SB1 does not provide robust protections for Churches, religious organizations, and small businesses. Religious liberties for those groups (and others, such as government employees processing same-sex marriage applications or jurists) are not exempt and would violate religious freedoms must be inviolate.

**SB1 is so poorly written the SSM issue is moot – a vote in favor of SB1 is a clear, direct, and flagrant attack on the U.S. Constitution and religious freedoms.**



## **THE SPECIAL SESSION DISENFRANCHISES THE ELECTORATE DUE PROCESS**

By its very nature, a special session inherently excludes the electorate from many aspects of the legislative process. This is appropriate when speed is essential, such as gaining access to needed funds earmarked for other expenditures in order to quickly respond to emergency conditions resultant from a tsunami.

However there are no time-sensitive issues that *must* be resolved before January before the House or Senate; therefore the special session is wholly inappropriate, unethical, and is a reprehensible abuse of delegated authority.

As concerned citizens, we **insist upon our rights of civic engagement** in the legislative process. Good government *demands* participation from the people – on principle alone, you must halt SB1. **Even if you favor SB1, to proceed with this mockery of our democratic-republic demonstrates contempt for your electorate and concerned constituency.**

## **REDEFINING MARRIAGE WILL REDUCE EVERYONE'S RELIGIOUS FREEDOMS**

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. **Even scholars who strongly support same-sex marriage agree that serious religious freedom problems will arise.**

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- Schools will teach children the new definition of marriage and correct or ostracize children who openly disagree based on their family's religious beliefs. Health and sex education courses will also reflect the new reality of marriage.
- 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.**

## **REDEFINING MARRIAGE WILL HARM CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND SOCIETY**

The legal definition of marriage embodies what we as a society value most in marriage. Changing it will result in real harms. Candidly, SSM is **NOT in Hawaii's best interests**. This is not hate, bigotry, or intolerance against homosexuals or others within the LGBT community.

This is empirical fact.

- By defining marriage legally as between a man and a woman, the law enshrines the societal value that both genders are equally essential to marriage. Marriage unites a man and a woman into a uniquely important partnership that is strengthened by the attributes of both genders. No other union is like it.
- The traditional definition of marriage also affirms the societal value that children are central to the purpose of marriage and that children fare best when raised by the loving father and mother who brought them into this world. Throughout history and in all societies, the purpose of marriage has always been to help ensure that children have a mother and a father.
  - **Numerous empirical studies over many decades establish that children develop best when raised by a father and a mother in a stable marriage relationship.**
  - **Communities that have abandoned traditional marriage as the center of family and child-rearing have experienced dramatic increases in every category of child-development problems, including depression, drug abuse, teenage pregnancies, school dropout rates, and crime. That has resulted in huge social costs in those communities.**
- Redefining marriage to include same-sex couples will change the focus of marriage from ensuring that a child is cared for by his father and mother, to accommodating adult relationships. **When the focus of marriage is no longer on children but rather on adults, the protection of children will be eroded and society itself will suffer.** This has already occurred with easy divorce and will worsen further with same-sex marriage.

SSM supporters are quick to vocalize isolated instances to downplay or refute these claims of harm. However, such arguments are victims of logical fallacy, specifically *hasty or faulty generalization*, wherein a small sample is incorrectly construed to represent a population. Of course there are miraculous rare exceptions, just as there are to nearly every axiom:

- People that remain healthy despite exposure to fatally infectious disease;
- Individuals that play with matches and avoid getting burned; or,
- Children that remain healthy in every respect despite marriage abandonment.

However, the risks in each case are far too great to willfully endorse, allow, promote, or push onto all Hawaiians! To presume that the harms avoided by a few lucky individuals will not befall others, **despite the strongly compelling and long-term empirical evidence to the contrary**, is both a dangerous and arrogant precedent to establish.

I am not insensitive to the deeply personal and painful nature of this issue. Two months ago my hanai brother, someone I've known since I could talk, was married in a California SSM. Nonetheless, I stand steadfast in my position that SSM is wrong for Hawaii.

Please note, I do NOT advocate that SSM *causes* these harms; rather, SSM is simply another boxcar in the train of abuses levied against children, the family and society. These empirically documented and statistically significant harms – **increased depression, drug abuse, teenage pregnancies, school dropout rates, crime, etc.** – are the *effects* of traditional marriage abandonment and will negatively influence all Hawaiians.

**I warn that the disintegration of traditional marriage will bring these harms upon individuals, communities, and our 'āina hānau, and will bring more calamities besides.**

I strongly urge the Committees to vote NO on SB1 and YES on HB 5 or 8, and HB12.

## **IT IS CONTRARY TO MY FUNDAMENTAL RELIGIOUS BELIEFS**

While my faith – The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints – teaches love for all of God’s children and does not oppose common-sense rights on issues such as housing and employment, the *Family Proclamation* teaches that marriage between a man and a woman is essential to Heavenly Father’s eternal plan of happiness, and that children are entitled to be cared for by a faithful father and mother. It also warns of serious social consequences if these time-honored principles are abandoned. See <https://www.lds.org/topics/family-proclamation>.

**CLOSING STATEMENTS**

SB1 does not adequately protect religious freedoms, nor does the special session allow appropriate due process for the electorate to engage in the legislative process. For those two reasons alone – the SSM issue untouched – SB1 should be terminated. To do otherwise is simply wrong.

Do NOT re-define marriage.

It is NOT in Hawaii’s best interest.

It is NOT in your best interest as a legislative body.

If there are areas of needed health care or economic reform to allow couples in civil unions to enjoy and receive needed benefits, let’s fix that.

God bless you to safely navigate these difficult and turbulent waters.

Mahalo nui loa,

Joshua Smith

jns/jns

For the House joint hearing: Hearing on 10/31 time TBA (testimony due by email, fax or mail by 10/30 time TBA)

Karl Rhoads, Chair

Sylvia Luke, Chair

House Judiciary Committee

House Finance Committee

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY (SSM)

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

It is unfortunate that SB1 has made its way to the Senate for a vote. The rationale used by Senators Hee and Shimabukuro were convoluted at best and showed a predisposition to vote their own intent rather than consider testimonies. Specifically, Chairman Hee said that there was not enough time (funny, that was our complaint) to separate those who wanted the committee to vote no on the special session and those who wanted to have the people vote next year. Obviously, the intent of the testimonies was the same and voting no in committee would mean that it could be considered next year. Vice-chair Shimabukuro was insulting when she likened fears of First Amendment infringement with reverse psychology to get her son to take karate lessons. Again, I feel they ignored the will of the people who took time to offer testimony.

I do not believe that the Same-Sex Marriage is an equality issue if, as I listened to the testimony yesterday many said missing financial benefits and rights were indicators of their second-class status. I am of the faction that believes that genetically born traits that cannot be put off—gender or ethnicity—determines minority status. Homosexuality is defined by an action a person does and not a genetic identifier. Marriage is part of my religion and, consequently, marriage is greater than love or economics. In fact in the Windsor ruling that overturned DOMA, it was recognized that the states retained the power to define marriage and not the federal government. If we have a choice, then it is not discrimination. The framers of this bill have built it on the wrong foundation.

In 1998 the people decided to reject same-sex marriage and gave the legislature the right to act upon that wish. At that time I had some difficulty voting to grant so much power, because I envisioned this day—or week. 80% of the legislature has turned over and were not part of that deliberation: the collective memory is gone. If the legislature truly believes the peoples' will has changed, then prove it by allowing us to vote. The supporting side seems so certain they would win, then what should they object to putting it to the people?

Why is having this vote right now so important? I can only think of two reasons: the other side will receive tax benefits in 2013 and 2014 is an election year. These reasons are not worthy of a special session. I must admit there is a third reason I have heard over and over: the special session is used to circumvent the people and push it through. Well, that isn't worthy of the expense and division this session has caused. We must also be careful of precedence. If this governor has been imprudent with our legislative resources, money and aloha then we should not encourage him or other governors to



abuse this power. A no vote on SB1 would signal that special sessions should be used for times of emergency and disaster—not for “historic” social issues.

Not only was this bill brought to an improper venue and built on a shaky foundation, but the craftsmanship is, in a word, shoddy. It is full of unintended consequences that will leave an aftermath of litigation—lawsuits for the state and individuals. In light of the precedent that has already occurred in other locations with SSM, I cannot give the attorney general’s assurances as much credence as he might like and I hope that you don’t as well. If there were no differing opinions or interpretations, we wouldn’t have as many lawyers. Nor can we think that Hawaii will be exceptional in maneuvering through the issues without litigation.

### Education

In the Senate hearing there were a lot of testimonies that expressed concern over how SSM would be implemented in our schools. Apparently the governor, BOE Chair, AG office and Superintendent don’t know.<sup>i</sup> It was a reluctant honest answer for once. The best thing is to look at what has happened where SSM has passed. Massachusetts and Ontario Canada are two examples that should make Hawaii rethink and think again. We see implementation or normalizing SSM begins in kindergarten and can become quite graphic. These ideas are contrary to my faith and not appropriate for children. A parent should retain the right to opt out of instruction. That is not happening in other states and parents are losing their right to raise and instill values. SB1 is not ready for prime time, as the saying goes, and should not pass the committee.

### Hawaiian

Despite the assurances in the opening testimonies about vital records being prepared for the passage of SB1, I am afraid they offered no proof. I worked the last election and my polling station was one of those that ran out of ballots. Let’s say that was not a good night. That is history that I will not dismiss easily. Is there a design for these new marriage licenses? What about birth certificates for SSM adoptions. Just how will ancestry be traced? What will be done to guarantee that Hawaiian babies receive Hawaiian rights? How will we be certain that non-Hawaiian babies do not receive Hawaii receive admission to Kamehameha or a Hawaii Homelands home? Again, this is a faulty bill that creates more problems than it solves.

### First Amendment Rights

This is a very real concern for me. Let me preface with an extensive quote to give gravity to the concerns that some senators to not weigh seriously:

Our society is not held together primarily by law and its enforcement, but most importantly by those who voluntarily obey the unenforceable because of their internalized norms of righteous or correct behavior. Religious belief in right and wrong is a vital influence to produce such voluntary compliance by a large number of our citizens. President George Washington spoke of this reality in his farewell address: “Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are

indispensable supports," he said. "Reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle." [1]

Over 200 years later, in 1998, Congress enacted a law that formally declares: "The right to freedom of religion undergirds the very origin and existence of the United States." [2] That law formally associates our nation with the truth voiced by Jonathan Sacks, chief rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth:

"[Religion] remains the most powerful community builder the world has known. . . . Religion is the best antidote to the individualism of the consumer age. The idea that society can do without it flies in the face of history." [3]

In our nation's founding and in our constitutional order, the First Amendment guarantees of religious freedom and the freedoms of speech and press are the motivating and dominating civil liberties and civil rights. Appropriately, the guarantee of freedom of religion is the first expression in the Bill of Rights of the United States Constitution, and it is embodied in the constitutions of all 50 of our states. For many Americans, the free exercise of religion is the basic civil liberty because faith in God and His teachings and the active practice of religion are the most fundamental guiding realities of life. <sup>ii</sup>

Any amendments and attempts to modify SB1 will only create a false paradigm of safety that will be eroded through lawsuits. Classifying SSM as a civil right means that no exemption will last forever. To fully protect freedom of speech and religion, then SB1 must receive a no vote.

I feel that the best solution would be to let the Hawaii Congressional members (who gave such supportive testimony and petitions) to lead the nation in allowing civil marriages to receive all federal benefits afforded to traditionally married couples. Churches that already support and perform SSM will be allowed to do so for the couple's celebration, while the civil union would provide the government's authority and benefits. The first freedoms of churches that do not believe in SSM will not be infringed. Does this address the public accommodation and other religious issues? I don't know, but if without a 72 hour deadline we can find out the answer.

I am certain that I have not explored all of the problems that SB1 creates, but I have discussed many. I hope that I have given enough for a no vote. I believe that marriage is ordained of God and is one man and one woman. It is the basic unit of society and should be protected. I am sorry, but another long excerpt is in order:

#### Man and Women He Made Them

To a world which divided human sexuality between penetrator and penetrated, Judaism said, "You are wrong — sexuality is to be divided between male and female." To a world which saw women as baby producers unworthy of romantic and sexual attention, Judaism said "You are wrong — women must be the sole focus of men's erotic love." To a world which said that sensual feelings and physical beauty were life's supreme goods, Judaism said, "You are wrong — ethics and holiness are the supreme goods." A thousand years before Roman emperors kept naked boys, Jewish kings were commanded to write and keep a *sefer torah*, a book of the Torah.

...

The creation of Western civilization has been a terribly difficult and unique thing. It took a constant delaying of gratification, and a re-channeling of natural instincts; and these disciplines have not always been well received. There have been numerous attempts to undo Judeo-Christian civilization, not infrequently by Jews (through radical politics) and Christians (through anti-Semitism).

The bedrock of this civilization, and of Jewish life, has been the centrality and purity of family life. But the family is not a natural unit so much as it is a value that must be cultivated and protected. The Greeks assaulted the family in the name of beauty and Eros. The Marxists assaulted the family in the name of progress. And today, gay liberation assaults it in the name of compassion and equality. I understand why gays would do this. Life has been miserable for many of them. What I have not understood was why Jews or Christians would join the assault. I do now. They do not know what is at stake. At stake is our civilization.

It is very easy to forget what Judaism has wrought and what Christians have created in the West. But those who loathe this civilization never forget. The radical Stanford University faculty and students who recently chanted, "Hey, hey, ho, ho, Western civ has got to go," were referring to much more than their university's syllabus. And no one is chanting that song more forcefully than those who believe and advocate that sexual behavior doesn't play a role in building or eroding civilization. The acceptance of homosexuality as the equal of heterosexual marital love signifies the decline of Western civilization as surely as the rejection of homosexuality and other nonmarital sex made the creation of this civilization possible.<sup>iii</sup>

I do appreciate the time it takes to read this. I've used my best logic to explain why SB1 is a very real problem and should not be passed. May I end by saying that I do not begin to understand the complexities of why someone is homosexual: I feel that there are a few reasons. It does not make me hate them. However, compassion alone is not enough to grant people rights—especially when the consequences including taking away rights from others. Please vote no on SB1.

Sincerely,

Ruth Brown

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<sup>i</sup> <http://www.hawaiireporter.com/abercrombie-administration-and-doe-have-no-answers-for-same-sex-education-issues/123>

<sup>ii</sup> <http://www.mormonnewsroom.org/article/transcript-strengthening-free-exercise-of-religion-elder-dallin-h-oaks>

<sup>iii</sup> <http://www.orthodoxytoday.org/articles2/PragerHomosexuality.php>

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testifying in Person</b>
Julianna Shimabukuro	Individual	Comments Only	Yes

To: The House Judiciary Committee  
The House Finance Committee  
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.  
Place: Capitol Auditorium  
Re: Strong Opposition to SB1

Dear Chairpersons Rhoads and Luke, and Members of both the House Committees on Judiciary and Finance:

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to Bill SB1, and to plead with 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 and public servants.

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

Bill SB1 should be given full and due process during the regular session of the legislature, where it can be properly vetted, examined and amended 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 our beloved democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify!

Very Respectfully,

Garret Shon

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Nancy Chinen	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Dear Chairs Rhoads and Luke, and Members of both the House Committees on Judiciary and Finance: I am writing to voice my strong opposition to Bill SB1. I am a mother of 4 children, a teacher for 30 years, a resident of Hawaii for over 47 years and have been a voting member for over 35 years. I am a voice for the children of Hawaii. Please protect the children by not passing this bill. My children fear for their future if this bill passes. Passing this bill will change the curriculum of the public and private schools and teachers like myself will be forced to teach alternative lifestyles or face being fired. Please, please, please look into the impact it will have on Hawaii and educate yourselves by studying what is happening in other states and Canada before making a hasty decision. Also, please honor the Hawaiian people and their traditions. This is their land and the life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness. Please, please, please do the right thing and allow the people to decide on the issue of marriage. 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 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. Your "yes" vote in special session is clearly a NO vote to democracy! Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Nancy Chinen Honolulu, Hawaii

My name is Alexander. Meimer and I am testifying in OPPOSITION to SB1

Last year we were told that all the legislature wants to do is pass Domestic Partnership to give people equal rights and they would not seek same sex marriage.

At first there were not enough votes in the house and the bill was shelved, requiring a two third majority vote to bring it back. In a sly move on the last day of the session in the last hour the house voted to suspend that two third rule, with a simple majority, and narrowly passed the bill.

Contrary to the promise of not seeking a same sex marriage law, we are debating it now in a special session whir requires additional taxpayer funds and time.

I do however believe that the legislature wants to do what the representatives deem is best for the people of Hawaii, carrying out the will if the people they are representing as public servants.

Like many government initiatives, although well intended, it often produces exactly the opposite - especially when it is not well thought through, but rather pushed through the legislative process.

One of the key points made by the proponents of this law is, that it is all about love and two people who are committed to one another should be able to marry. But my concern is whether the full impact of this radical law been thoroughly considered by forcefully designing a "new normal" that everyone needs to abide by.

This issue has been, somewhat successfully, turned into a civil rights campaign, comparing it with the ethnic or racial movements of the 60's.

Of course it should seem obvious that a person can't change his or her color, put people can change their orientations, sexual or otherwise. (There really is no difference in race, as we all belong to the human race. But it is quite easy to tell male and female apart.)

I do believe these homosexual desires and urges are true and have a strong draw. On the other hand, we can't always follow our sexual desires. If I am married, I can't follow a desire toward another woman (and with the greater moral confusion, I'm sure some people would argue that point), if I have desires toward multiple partners or even toward children or animals, I should resist these desires.

In reality, anyone can get married, in a private ceremony exchanging vows with one another. The State or any other entity is not really needed to legitimise a relationship

between two people who love each other. The reason government got involved is for the protection of the weaker partner of family members (i.e. children) in case of a legal difference or separation.

However by passing this law of forceful integration and legitimization, you would violate the rights of the freedom of conscience of many, to please a few.

At the same time it de-legitimizes the traditional marriage which is the fundamental building block of a society and protects and provides a safe environment for children.

Marriage is not just a legal classification or something to be played with.

It may be popular opinion, promoted by media to think otherwise, but the Emperor really is naked, no matter how many people admire his new clothes.

Just as there are civic laws, there are laws of nature, like gravity, and violating these laws can have grave consequences. Violating natural moral laws are no different. Please give it some more thought and consider these consequences. Once things are changed it is so much harder to undo it. Don't just open Pandora's box and hope for the best.

Another concern is that as soon someone in the LBGT community feels wronged or treated unfairly it will be automatically misconstrued a hate crime, and their sexual orientation will be the automatic reason, not their behavior or qualifications.

To restate my point, it should be obvious that this not against or even about homosexual oriented people, but about the effects it will have on everybody else when it comes to the forceful integration and the effects on public life.

If it is about love, nobody is forbidding love, if about marriage, everybody can give marriage vows to a partner, if about benefits, they have already been granted. It can't be about those issues and if it is not, you have to wonder what the end goal is.

Since this has become a hot button issues which will affect everybody, please do not just decide on what you deem best, but LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE!

Thank you.

Alexander Meimer



Testifying against Bill SB1

October 30, 2013

Good day, Representatives,

My name is Jean A. Leong. I represent myself. I am a 78 year old registered voter.

This Bill S1 is not an equality issue.

1 man and 1 man is not 1 man and 1 woman. They are not equal.

In 1998, voters passed that legislators reserve marriage for opposite sex couples.

Each of us did not just appear, we all started as a cell. Where did the cell come from? It did not come from "no where". "No where" wouldn't be able to put a cell into your mother's womb. Somehow we were created. And created we were with different biological parts...1 man or 1 woman.

Physically, ideally in marriage, 1 man and 1 woman compliment each other lovingly, knowing the possibility of bringing a child into the world.

Man and man, woman and woman, are definitely not biologically , physiologically capable to complement each other as designed.

Whatever the situation, all human beings deserve to be loved and respected.

In closing, this is not an equality issue.

Please, please vote NO for Bill SB1.

I so submit,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today.

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY**  
**For the House hearing:** hearing on 10/31 @ 10:00am

Bryn Villers  
3114 Paliuli St Apt. 6  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816

Chair Karl Rhodes  
House Committee on Judiciary  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 407  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Chair Sylvia Luke, Chairs  
House Committee on Finance  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 407  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Oct. 29, 2013

Dear Honorable Chairs Rhodes and Luke  
Members of the Committees on Judiciary and Finance,

Aloha,

My name is Bryn Villers. I am a registered voter in House District 21, I have a B.S. in Zoology, and I am opposed to SB 1 and the legalization of same-sex “marriage” in the State of Hawai’i.

“When talking about same-sex marriage we must also be careful to distinguish between equality of persons and equality of institutions. No matter what our sexual attraction may be, we are all equal as persons. But the institution of marriage between a man and a woman cannot be equal to the union between persons of the same gender.” -Lively

Main Oppositions:

- Homosexuality has never been conclusively shown to be an *immutable characteristic* and therefore has no standing as a civil right

- There are no protections in this bill for non-clergy individuals whose religious beliefs and practices are protected under both state and federal constitutions when they refuse to provide goods or services (public or private) which would promote that which they consider immoral; namely same-sex “marriage”
- The people of Hawai’i voted in 1998 to, it was thought, constitutionally limit marriage to one man and one woman. Why else would the Supreme Court of Hawai’i in 1999 have dismissed *Baehr v. Lewin* immediately following the Constitutional Amendment? (Coolidge, 2000) It is not only injudicious, but iniquitous to legalize same-sex “marriage” without the vote of the people
- There are no regulations woven into this bill dealing with the outfall in the public education arena, and no studies have been presented to the public in relation to the issue. Yet, looking to those states, and even countries, wherein this has been legalized already, there are clearly alterations in the learning curriculum and environment.
- This legislature tramples on Hawaiian history by redefining the underlying structure of marriage as it has been throughout Hawaiian history—man and woman.
- “Love” is an ambiguous term (one could be talking about a hot fudge sundae or a spouse). It is too small of a word to incorporate all the massive shades of meaning. And love, within the context of marriage, is a choice
- The reality of the situation is that it is (overarchingly) about “normalizing” homosexual activity and opening the litigious doors

## Homosexuality

What is homosexuality? A seemingly obvious question, and yet absolutely fundamental to the purpose set before this body. The current trend of popular thought says homosexuality is an innate characteristic of an individual undetermined by personal choice (born-that-way) and resulting in same-sex attraction. For the State's purposes however, homosexuality is the commission of homosexual acts—sourced in thought, but committed by choice.

The State has no capacity to regulate thought life. Anyone can have any thoughts about anyone else without fear of reprisal. The law only regulates actions. An individual may imagine murdering a person but only if they take steps to put that thought into action can the State act against them to protect the public good. Likewise, the State regulates certain behaviors by law and refuses to promote others if the result of the behavior is found to be sufficiently detrimental to the State and/or the public, or if the benefits of the actions do not outweigh the cost, or if the action falls under the umbrella of protected civil rights. Because the acts of homosexuality, in the aggregate sense, are detrimental (most notably in the arenas of health and therefore economics) and because homosexual acts cannot result in the production of new citizens (a benefit to the State when reared to be both civilized and economically productive and the real purpose of marriage <http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/im-gay-and-i-oppose-gay-marriage/>), the category of civil rights is the only remaining, I will discuss this.

Homosexuality as an act is already permitted under the law—the right to privacy (for one) even protects it. For homosexual marriage to take on protections

as a civil right homosexuality as a state of being predetermined from birth and without determination by choice must, as *one* of the most basic of *several* components, be an immutable characteristic of the individual intending to get married—that is, they must be predetermined to take the action without any regard for choice or it must be necessary for life (like breathing or eating). Categories included in civil rights would be things such as “race”, ethnicity/ancestry, and gender. Religion also falls under this category of civil rights because of its specially and specifically protected status under the Constitution of the United States (Bill of Rights 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment) and the Hawai’i State Constitution (Bill of Rights Section 5). Already, the State has an interest in not encouraging homosexuality, and no obligation to promote it through the legalization of same-sex “marriage” because the thoughts of individuals are not the purview of the State, but only the action; and the action by virtue of being an action is a choice and one which can be taken without “marriage”. Some might argue that heterosexuality is also a choice and that is true, however it provides a necessary benefit to the State in the production of new citizens. Incest, pedophilia, and bestiality are also choices sourced in thought, yet the State regulates the *actions*, and does not promote the activity by legalizing them in “marriage”. And yet already, pedophiles are claiming the same arguments as same-sex “marriage” advocates for their “sexual orientation” to be recognized. (Minor, 2011)

## Science

So, what about the science? One of the most recent papers of large scale (Santilla, 2008) claims to, “show, for the first time ever prevalent potential for homosexual response in both men and women”. The problems with this study are two-fold. The authors base their entire data set on two questions: During the past year, on average, how often did you have sexual contact with [the same gender]? (“overt homosexual behavior”) and “If a, in your opinion, handsome man...[for women, woman] whom you like, suggested sexual interaction with you, how likely would you be able [sic] to do it (if you could define the nature of the interaction and nobody else would know about it)?” (marked on a scale from most to least likely). Essentially, the study asks a person to fantasize about whether or not they would be willing to engage in homosexual behavior (calling it “potential for homosexual response”) if propositioned. The second issue is that rather than revealing the genetic case for homosexuality, the paper shows an influence of only 27% (with an error range of 2.7-38 which is very large) for genetics within twins, and moreover “nonshared environmental influences” or influences specific to the individual accounted for 73% with an error range of (62-85). The paper could be dissected further on other levels, but in an overarching sense it shows the same thing that all large twin studies have been showing. If homosexuality was genetic it ought to be at or near 100% for all monozygous (same DNA) twins—it has never, in any study of random, large sampling been shown to even approach that number. And if it were accounted for as epi-genetic as in the Rice et al 2012 paper then dizygotic twins (different DNA, same womb conditions) would be expected to have an exact

correlation with monozygous twins, which is not the case. The Rice study assumes homosexuality is not acquired. And what is more it is not based on any actual study, but is rather a mathematical model. The claims of DNA markers on the X chromosome for male homosexuality (Hamer, 1993) have not been repeatable or verified.

Savic's study (2006) on pheromone response does not reveal biological innateness of homosexuality, as Dr. Savic stated

"[We] did not want to create the impression that the study proves sexual response is not learned. In fact, [the Swedish research team] seems pretty open to plausible interpretations. However, at present, from this study, nothing definitive can be concluded."

LeVay (1991) says about his study on brain structure,

"It's important to stress what I didn't find. I did not prove that homosexuality is genetic, or find a genetic cause for being gay. I didn't show that gay men are born that way, the most common mistake people make in interpreting my work. Nor did I locate a gay center in the brain ... Since I looked at adult brains, we don't know if the differences I found were there at birth, or if they appeared later."

One of the main criticisms on the LeVay study is that HIV affects testosterone levels. Diamond's study in 2008 showed that over 10 years 2/3 of women changed sexual identity labels and 1/3 changed labels 2 or more times. And there are studies citing finger length, eye blinking in response to loud noises, and how many brothers you have. (Swaab and Hofman, 1990; Rahman, 2003; Pathela, 2006) Despite mountains of studies, the results are that there is no conclusive proof that homosexual attraction is genetically pre-determined. But there is every evidence that heterosexual activity between men and women is both natural (i.e. the constituent parts fit together in a biological sense) and necessary for the survival of humanity.

## Conclusion

Homosexuality has not been shown to be an immutable characteristic by science, even Just the Facts Coalition a GLSEN initiated publication agrees,

“Sexual orientation has not been conclusively found to be determined by any particular factor or factors..” pg5 “Just the Facts” 2008

Which is endorsed by:

American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Association of School Administrators  
American Counseling Association  
American Federation of Teachers  
American Psychological Association  
American School Counselor Association  
American School Health Association  
Interfaith Alliance Foundation  
National Association of School Psychologists  
National Association of Secondary School Principals  
National Association of Social Workers  
National Education Association  
School Social Work Association of America

In fact, studies show results contrary to this assertion. Homosexual acts *have been* shown conclusively to coincide with greater than average HIV (and other STI) rates (roughly 2% of U.S. population is gay yet it accounts for 61% of HIV infection) (CDC, 2009) and greater than average promiscuity rates (at least among youth, could not find recent stats for adults) (CDC, 2011).

There is nothing prohibiting any individual from engaging in homosexual acts under law. But the purpose of marriage is now, and has always been, the production of children and their rearing in a stable environment.

The families of America are already struggling to raise their children right (fighting against drugs, promiscuity, disconnection, gangs, violence, etc.). Legalizing same-sex marriage, and therefore legitimizing homosexual activity, will only serve to complicate and further confuse our children.

Please vote NO on the legalization of same-sex marriage.

Allow the people to vote and bear the responsibility for their choice.



## Resources

Cameron, P. and Cameron, K. Eastern Psychological Association  
[http://www.lifesitenews.com/ldn/2007\\_docs/CameronHomosexualFootprint.pdf](http://www.lifesitenews.com/ldn/2007_docs/CameronHomosexualFootprint.pdf)

CDC, 2009 [cdc.gov/nchhstp/newsroom/HIVIncidencePressRelease.html](http://cdc.gov/nchhstp/newsroom/HIVIncidencePressRelease.html)

CDC, 2011 <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/ss/ss60e0606.pdf>

Coolidge, D. O., Symposium Article and Comment: The Hawai'i Marriage Amendment: Its Origins, Meaning and Fate, 22 *Hawaii L. Rev.* 19 Spring 2000

Hamer, D. H., A Linkage Between Markers on the X Chromosome and Male Sexual Orientation, *Science* 261 (5119), 1993

Minor, J. 2011 "Pedophiles want same rights as homosexuals"  
<http://www.greeleygazette.com/press/?p=11517>

Rice, W.R. et al, Homosexuality as a consequence of epigenetically canalized sexual development, *The Quarterly Review of Biology*, 87 (4) Dec. 2012

Santilla, P. et al, Potential for homosexual response is prevalent and genetic, *Biol. Psychol.* 77 (2008) 102-105

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY**  
For the House of Representatives hearing: hearing on 10/31/2013 at 10:00 AM

Kerrie Villers  
3114 Paliuli St., Apt. 6  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96816

October 29, 2013

Karl Rhoads, Chair  
House Committee on Judiciary  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 302  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Sylvia Luke, Chair  
House Committee on Finance  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 306  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

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

Dear Chair Rhoads, Chair Luke, and Members of the Committees on Judiciary and Finance:

My name is Kerrie Villers. I am a voting resident of Representative District 21, and I oppose same-sex marriage in general and specifically S.B. 1. If marriage is going to be redefined to include same-sex couples, a vote of the people should be permitted since it has such extensive societal consequences.

**Major Points:**

1. The reality of the spill-over into the sphere of education when homosexuality is endorsed by the state through legalization of same-sex marriage.
2. Homosexual activity has not been demonstrated to be a genetic or prenatal predisposition, thus has no legal grounds for qualifying under civil rights.
3. Male homosexual and bisexual activity has been decisively linked with high prevalence of HIV/AIDS, thus posing a health and economic concern for our state.
4. The state has a duty to protect its citizens and not promote high risk behavior by endorsing homosexual activity through the elevation of same-sex unions to the preferred status of marriage, making it indistinct from heterosexual marriage.
5. Major societal decisions that will forever destroy native and non-native culture, customs, and tradition should be made by the people who constitute those groups, not a small governing body.

**Discussion:**

We must consider and address the issues our society will inevitably encounter and should anticipate and discuss if this state is to make an intelligent and wise decision for the good of all its people concerning marriage. As a former educator, an Auntie, and hopefully a future mother, the effects on our public education system is of great concern to me. We cannot help but logically conclude that if the state sanctions homosexual relations as equal to and indistinct from heterosexual relations, our public school system will soon after begin to include homosexuality in the curriculum as normative rather than an aberration/ deviation from the norm. Those who would argue otherwise need look no farther than the public school curriculum and policies of other states and countries where same-sex marriage has been legalized (namely Massachusetts, California, Maryland, United Kingdom, The Netherlands, Canada, etc.). From the earliest grades in elementary school all the way through high school, homosexuality is, or is planned to be, taught to students as a societal norm.

When homosexuality is taught in public schools after legalizing same sex marriage, it is treated as something that ought to be embraced, regardless of the students' beliefs, objections of their parents, and scientific data that proves the lifestyle to be quite hazardous to physical health. There is evidence of students being taught to cross-dress and use bathrooms designated for the opposite sex, which only serves to confuse children on appropriate behavior. This also presents a safety concern where boys may go unquestioned into the girls' restroom. In some schools students have been forced into "counseling" for speaking out peacefully about the unnatural nature of and scientific facts relating to homosexuality. Students have also been taught graphic

Mr. Karl Rhoads  
Ms. Sylvia Luke  
Page 3  
October 29, 2013

material relating to homosexuality and how to engage in this behavior. None of this promotes the safety and mental or physical well-being of our children.

Research and statistics reveal that homosexuality is not normative. It remains fairly rare in our society, with roughly only 2-4% of the population identifying as homosexual. In spite of activists claims that the behavior is genetic, geneticists have concluded that this is false; it is neither genetic nor a prenatal condition<sup>1</sup>. Only those who strongly desire to prove otherwise cling to models suggesting that though not genetic, homosexuality must be influenced in prenatal stages of life. We should not as a society, deceive our children and teach them what is evidenced as false merely to appease those involved in this behavior.

In addition to not being normative, homosexuality has proven to be sexually unhealthy. According to the Hawai'i Department of Health, HIV-AIDS Surveillance Semi-Annual Report, homosexual men made up 84% of those living with HIV/AIDS in our state in 2007<sup>2</sup>. The prevalence of this disease in homosexual men is staggering compared to that of the rest of the population. Though heterosexuals having higher levels of bacterial infections such as gonorrhea and chlamydia in our state, these are obviously curable. As a society, we try to discourage, especially our youth, from engaging in sexual activity that is harmful, and we should continue to do so. Normalizing this behavior will promote homosexuality as good and safe, while failing to adequately impress upon children the high health risks associated with it.

This is only one aspect of the way in which legalizing homosexual marriage will affect our society aside from the religious controversy. Marriage is obviously tied to complementarity and reproductive potential as well as health, otherwise we would allow incest. The government's interest in marriage is in large part concerned with societal stability through promotion of

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positive family structure, which is best achieved in intact biological families. There is a tremendous number of concerns relating to the state endorsing homosexual marriage, and these should be thoroughly considered by the people since society as a whole will be impacted, not merely the small group which desires the preferred status of marriage.

Marriage has a preferred status because it provides the best social environment for rearing children, that is the intact biological family. This is a natural union between two persons who have complimentary parts to produce offspring, which benefits the state by providing more citizens, who will be raised in a stable environment having both natural parents caring for and nurturing them, should the parents remain together. This is the only situation where you begin with the most optimal situation. Other household options, such as homosexual or single parent, begin with suboptimal conditions as the child will be reared without one natural parent. Since homosexuality is not proven to be an immutable trait, is not a relationship that naturally produces offspring, is not the most optimal environment for rearing children, and is highly associated with health risks (particularly for men), then the state is neither obligated nor should it be inclined to elevate the relationship to the preferred status of marriage.

The legalization of homosexual marriage is a transformative shift in our society as our state would be sanctioning homosexual activity rather than merely presenting the fact that it exists. The legalization of it removes the distinction between gender types in marriage, but by nature, two men and two women are distinctly different than a man and a woman coming together to create a family. Marriage is not about equal social units. It is about children, which two men or two women are never able to produce together. New human life necessarily,

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biologically requires genetic input from two individuals of the opposite sex. Civil Unions are about equal social units, not marriage.

Before our legislators make this decision for our state, they should thoroughly investigate the long term effects this will have on our people and the potential negative repercussions, particularly as they pertain to our children, which is our future. Legislative bodies are formed to enact laws that protect our society, not make laws that will radically shift society without due consideration and consent of the people.

As representatives of the people, this legislative body has a duty to consider the people's needs and desires and to do the greatest good for them. Aside from biological proof of immutability, which has never been produced because it does not exist, the homosexual community has no claim to civil rights as minorities. Therefore, the discussion of this body should be limited to considering whether sanctioning this behavior is in the best interests of society as a whole and of our children in particular.

We, as the people of Hawai'i, do not feel animosity towards homosexuals and would rather live peaceably, each according to his or her own conscience. We respect the Rights of Conscience and the Rights of Free Exercise of Religion guaranteed by our State and US Constitutions for all people, both individuals and organized groups of like minded persons. Being part Native Hawaiian, African American, and Chinese, I realize that this legislation will forever remove my native Hawaiian traditions and customs and my non-native culture. I do not want this imposed upon me by this legislature.

Should such a major societal shift be promoted, it should be done by the people of this state, that is, by society at large and not by a small governing body of 77 persons. Though I

Mr. Karl Rhoads  
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appreciate the position and service of our legislators, I am strongly opposed to them making policies that will remove thousands of years of our traditions and force our people to accept activity which we validly do not believe is healthy.

I urge you to put the vote to the people once and for all, by allowing language on a ballot that would entirely approve of or entirely ban homosexual marriage in the Hawai'i Constitution. At the very least, I would ask that this body delay the consideration of this matter and allow time for it to be properly vetted like other bills. There are so many problems with this bill, from potentially congesting our courts with divorce cases from other states to granting parental rights to individuals who are not biological parents (you run into issues with Native Hawaiian people concerning non-native biological parents giving birth, and the child being presumed partially native because the partner is native, yet the child may have no native blood).

I ask that sincere efforts be put forth to educate the people of our land on how this will impact them. You cannot with integrity "represent" the people if you do not know their minds and hearts on the matter, and you cannot know their true thoughts and feelings if they are incapable of making informed decisions based on lack of knowledge. Please delay this until regular session and allow the people to vote. I thank you for your service and your consideration.

Very sincerely yours,

Kerrie "Nani Li'i" Villers

Mark Regnerus, a sociologist at the University of Texas at Austin, recently [said](#), "I think you can have social stability without many intact families, but it's going to

Mr. Karl Rhoads  
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be really expensive and it's going to look very 'Huxley-*Brave New World*-ish.' So [the intact family is] not only the optimal scenario ... but it's the cheapest. How often in life do you get the best and the cheapest in the same package?"<sup>3</sup>

- Quote from Doug Mainwaring, a homosexual opposed to same-sex marriage

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1. Ellis, Mark. "Identical Twins Studies Prove Homosexuality is Not Genetic." Thursday, May 30, 2013. Accessed from <http://www.hollanddavis.com/?p=3647> on October 26, 2013.

2. Hawai'i Department of Health. "HIV-AIDS Surveillance Semi-Annual Report." Accessed from [http://hawaii.gov/health/healthy-lifestyles/std-aids/aboutus/prg-aids/aids\\_rep/2h2007.pdf](http://hawaii.gov/health/healthy-lifestyles/std-aids/aboutus/prg-aids/aids_rep/2h2007.pdf) on October 26, 2013.

3. Mainwaring, Doug. "I'm Gay and I Oppose Same-Sex Marriage." Public Discourse, The Witherspoon Institute, March 8th, 2013. Accessed from <http://www.thepublicdiscourse.com/2013/03/9432/> on October 27, 2013.



**To:** Representative Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee Chair  
Representative Sylvia Luke, Finance Committee Chair  
Representative Sharon Har, Judiciary Committee Vice-Chair  
Representative Scott Nishimoto, Finance Committee Vice-Chair  
Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Finance Committee Vice-Chair

**From:** Terry Travis  
91-999 La'aulu St., Unit F  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706  
terrytravis@hawaiiantel.net

**RE:** In-Person Testimony on SB 1  
Thursday, October 31, Capitol Auditorium  
Position: Strong Support

Dear Chair Rhoads, Chair Luke, and members of the House Committees on Judiciary and Finance, I am writing in strong support of SB 1. Dear members of this committee. Others have presented testimony on how important it is for loving couples to be allowed to marry persons they choose, and I wholeheartedly support them. But what I would like to do is to challenge some of the irrational statements being made by the opponents of this bill. 1. Marriage Equality will NOT destroy America's family structure: Massachusetts legalized same sex Marriage in 2004 and since then Massachusetts has had the lowest divorce rate of any state in the US. In fact, according to a study by the CDC (US Center for Disease Control) done in 2007, the 5 states that had legalized same sex marriage at that time - Connecticut, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Vermont, and the District of Columbia - together have an average divorce rate that is nearly 20% lower than the average divorce rate in the rest of the country. See summary of report at <http://divorce.com/cdc-report-shows-massachusetts-has-lowest-divorce-rate/> 2. The People HAVE decided: When the legislature first considered Civil Unions, the opponents vowed to vote out those legislators who supported it. But ever since then, voters have consistently elected or re-elected legislators who support Civil Unions so that support in the legislature has increased. Other examples: Linda Lingle vetoed Civil Unions and was thus soundly defeated when she ran for Senate by her opponent who favored Civil Unions. Duke Aiona, who said he would have vetoed Civil Unions, was also soundly defeated by Neil Abercrombie who said he would sign the Civil Unions bill. Charles Dijou ran on "Traditional Family Values" and was defeated by a candidate who favored Civil Unions. The most obvious example is Mufi Hannemann, who called Civil Unions "same sex marriage by a different name". He was surprisingly defeated by Tulsi Gabbard who supported Civil Unions. So, the people HAVE spoken. The only thing that a delay and a vote by the people would do is allow the Catholic Church time to waste more money running homophobic TV ads when they should be using their resources for Charitable work. 3. This bill does NOT redefine Marriage: The same opponents of this bill said in opposition to the Civil Unions Bill "Civil Unions are Same Sex Marriages by another name". So taking them at their word, what this bill really does is just change the name of Civil Unions to Civil Marriages. So why are these opponents claiming that his is "land-breaking legislation"? By their own statements, this bill just recognizes that Hawaii already

has Same Sex Marriage and is now finally calling it by the correct name – Civil Marriage – so that these couples will get the equal benefits and responsibilities afforded by the Federal Government and approved by the US Supreme Court to all couples who have been married.

4. Freedom of Religion is NOT the issue: This bill contains many provisions to protect Freedom of Religion in cases where this freedom is within the confines of the exercise of a particular religion. The real issue is whether a religious minority is allowed to impose their homophobic agenda on the majority. In addition, I believe that the state has a right to make laws that cover businesses, even when those businesses are run by a Church Institution. A Church is free to not run any business where their beliefs will not allow them to follow the laws of the land. As Jesus said, "Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God, the things that are God's." In conclusion, I would like to state that, while I seem against the Catholic Church, I was born Catholic, raised Catholic, attended 16 years of Catholic School and attend a Catholic Church weekly. I support the Catholic Church as a community of believers, but am appalled at the actions of the bishops and cardinals in this and other bigoted actions which I firmly believe are not true teachings of Jesus Christ. Thank you for allowing me to testify. I especially want to thank you for your service to the people of this state. And may the Divinity of your choice bless you and guide you. Respectively, Terry Travis, Ewa Beach, HI

10/31/13

To: Karl Rhoads, Chair Sylvia Luke, Chair  
House Judiciary Committee House Finance Committee

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

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

I am writing to voice my opposition to Bill SB1.

To give the people an opportunity to vote on Same Sex Marriage, please  
vote NO on this particular bill, and then encourage an election for the all  
voters of Hawaii to cast their own votes.

Your assumed commitment to your public office is to represent the  
people of Hawaii well.

You were not elected to be judges of the people; you were elected to  
speak on behalf of all people in Hawaii. This issue of SSM is clearly  
divided among the people. PLEASE let the people vote on this issue.

If you do not stop the current election of this bill, then please vote NO to  
keep our current marriage laws in effect. At the next election, or in a  
special election, give the people of Hawaii the opportunity to vote on  
SSM. It is the only real way to hear what the people want. Please do not  
take away our freedom and right to speak our hearts through a people's  
vote.

Please do not change our marriage laws until the people can cast their  
own votes.

If you feel you must vote on this bill, then please honor and respect my  
vote against SSM. I do not support SSM, and I ask that you please  
represent my vote.

Please remember and consider your call to represent the people, and to  
be partial to no one.

Thank you for your consideration.

Paula Tanaka  
Mililani, HI 96789

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Finance  
Hearing Date: October 31, 2013 10am  
Place: Capitol Auditorium  
Re: Support SB1, Relating to Equal Rights

Dear House Members of the Committees on Judiciary and Finance:

I am submitting this testimony in strong support of SB1, relating to marriage equality in state of Hawai'i.

Some folks see same sex marriage as destroying traditional marriage, some may think it's all about money, and quite a few believe it's not what God wants; but to me it's all about love, commitment and family. Aren't these the reasons everyone in our society gets married?

Marriages/relationships are hard enough and we as a society should be supporting and helping each other to nurture and grow our relationships. As a society, we will only benefit from strong supportive relationships, whether they be same sex or opposite gendered.

I try to live each day by the principle of "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you," which means to me that you should treat others as you would like others to treat you. There are times when this is a struggle, and this past Monday was one of those days. As I sat waiting to testify at the Senate hearing for SB 1 , I listened to hatred emanating in the name of god, how my love, my relationship, was not worthy of the dignity, respect and acceptance that is afforded a heterosexual relationship.

With the passing of SB1, my soul and spirit would start to heal , my marriage would be on the same equal basis as straight members of our society, and it would give all same sex couples the dignity we deserve.

I ask that we come together today and start to build a society of people who care about each other regardless of who we love. I humbly ask that you stand up for marriage equality and vote yes on SB1.

Deborah Cohn  
279 Alaume Street  
Kihei, HI 96753

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Finance  
Hearing Date: October 31, 2013, 10:00 am  
Place: Capitol Auditorium  
Re: Support SB1, Relating to Equal Rights

Dear House Members of the Committees on Judiciary and Finance:

I am writing in strong support of SB1, relating to marriage equality in the state of Hawai'i.

Although I live on Maui, I was present here at the Capitol on Monday when the Senate began their hearings on this bill. My testimony will reflect some of the reactions I had from that day after listening to hatred, supposedly emanating and sanctioned by the deity of different religions:

1. Let's be honest; prior to the arrival of the Christian Ministries, Hawaiian culture enjoyed the Aikane within its ohana. We should all be tired of hearing how gays and lesbians are supposedly new to the islands and are imposing their will on the people and ruining society. <http://www.kalani.com/men-women-gay/aikane-old-hawaii>
2. There is still a separation of church and state in this country. We should not have to listen to, abide by, and adhere to the negative, religiously driven diatribe and hatred from folks that fanatically believe their view is the only one to be accepted.
3. Our nation has embarrassingly lived through years of discrimination against all sorts of people. We did not allow different races to marry, and had to fight for that right from state to state. That is what we are experiencing today with same sex marriage. It is only a matter of time before the Supreme Court rules on a case like Loving vs. Virginia, that will grant same-sex couples the rights they deserve nationwide. Hawai'i should be well ahead of that curve.
4. The First Amendment will remain intact with SB1. The majority of my community would prefer to hire people that will take loving care of their needs on their wedding day, and would rather spend hard earned money with people that accept them rather than reject them. There is no need for the fear that has been generated by those that revel in homophobia. We don't want to give our money to haters, nor do we want to risk having those vendors ruin our special day due to their hatred/homophobia.

The items listed above relate to civil rights; religious platitudes and beliefs should not be included in any civil rights platform.

I would like to add that I am very proud of my Maui Senators and House Representatives, sans one, for standing up for equality and justice for all.

Let's finish the work that the State of Hawai'i started back in 1993. Pass SB1.

Eileen McKee  
279 Alaume St.  
Kihei HI 96753

A No VOTE to Senate Bill 1 or SB1 means wisdom, because we can taking the appropriate time for what will affect all of us forever, to

weigh a weighty matter that has horrific consequences on everyone's basic rights. The right and freedom to think and speak freely rather than keeping shut unless you can repeat only what the law and the government mandates.

When a decision is life-

changing in your personal life, do you do it in haste? What if it will affect your entire family forever? Many have insufficient research of how it will manifest and play out in our day-to-day lives.

This bill is the beginning of the removal of our freedom of speech.

Here are some horrific consequences of how this bill is used to allow the courts to remove your freedom to think



and speak and have opinions, through it. For lack of time, just 2 lawsuit cases are cited.

But the list grows daily so the lawyers fighting to maintain your Constitutional freedoms that we take for granted up until now, the Constitutional lawyers and Religious liberty lawyers can barely keep up.

The following 2 examples can be found on the site:

[AllianceDefendingFreedom.org](http://AllianceDefendingFreedom.org)

# WRITTEN TESTIMONY

Greetings you who are counting on.

Are you ready for the changes in your daily life and your family's - if you rush this bill to become law in hawaii?

-Your wife, your grandmother, your mother or aunt- going into a public women's restroom – and a huge and strong man towering over your mother is also in there. When she, in shock at the sight,

scolds him, he simply says he has every right to be there as it is the law of the land now and if she says anything else, he'll file a lawsuit on her. Your mother calls you since you make and know the law as a lawmaker. She is shocked that this could happen and says, now, she can't go out longer than an hour and 1/2 as she is getting older now and has to go more often to the bathroom so better get home to only her

bathroom since the trauma in the public restroom was too much and too dangerous.

One day you meet your wife at the hospital. Her mind and emotions are broken and she is bruised and her clothes ripped by a person with strength. She was raped by a sex offender who she thought was just a Transgender in the restroom.

Is this what you want for your beautiful and aloha-style women in Hawaii? Men in the

ladies' restrooms?

This law will rubber-stamp and strengthen the right of men to enter women's restrooms who will just say they felt like a female that day.....and then to their surprise their male hormones took over suddenly and they couldn't control themselves.

And from what has been going on in our country, who do you think will be silenced and who will be defended in the courts?

From the cases going on in the rest of the country, not the traumatized women in your life. Her trauma and complaint will just be called Hate Speech against Gay Rights. Is this what you blindly intend for the women....even the women who are Legislators here? You are not protected just because this is a professional place. You will be subject to the far-reaching strength of this law and the precedent of many

cases before yours that have had the same experience of the homosexual's rights to the restroom over your right to female privacy.

As all over the country the rights of a small minority of homosexuals have already trumped the rights of the majority's most basic freedoms, not only of speech but including this right to privacy, especially in a bathroom or shower with no

curtains! Suddenly a man comes in to shower alongside you inside the beach shower. Certainly we are not immune in Hawaii with SB1 further promoting Gay Rights over everyone else's rights. As Gay activists are saying, this law is just the BEGINNING of their plans to dominate the society with homosexuality as the norm and dominant society. Their plan is to begin the training young, starting from



kindergarten. In all the states that passed SSM, the training and induction strives to begin at Kindergarten. Not just in the classroom but also in the showers. You know Gov. Jerry Brown in CA passed a law this year allowing boys to go in little girls showers from Kindergarten up.

So please say no to this bill until you research thoroughly what you will do for the

protection of all females,  
including lesbians of course,  
before passing this bill. Or we  
will be afraid to use our own  
restrooms while the male  
transgenders have full reign to  
them and we get silenced or  
punished, for saying anything,  
as the young female students  
in Colorado were told by  
school officials. Perhaps as  
adult women we'd be subject  
to a fine.

Please, use wisdom and take

just more time and better research as the wisdom of Representative Marcus Oshiro has pointed out. There are so many serious and irreversable consequences to what you decide hastily in 2 days. Why the haste makes waste path? Don't be pushed into anything. Things that are true and noble and good don't need to be pushed. They will unfold in peace. Be a man! Be a woman who is courageous for her

people. Stand up and fight with us, the majority of your constituents -to serve us excellently, we who have put you employing full due process so that you may do all your days in decency and order and peace for all. Pause, just consider. Do this by saying NO, at least for now, at the least, for now.

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testifying in Person</b>
wayne	cordeiro	Oppose	Yes

Comments: We strongly oppose this bill. It has two distinct components clashing. One is equal benefits. That we do not oppose. this is however the contention: Equal acceptance and endorsement under penalty is the problem. Homosexuality is an immoral lifestyle and no amount of man's laws will change that or make it "right". We cannot legislate sin into normalcy. The government shouldn't be in this at all.

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testifying in Person</b>
Yong Melton	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Honorable Karl Roads, Chair House Judiciary Committee and Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair House Finance Committee I now am able to testify. The country I born in was not very democratic when I was young. The political leaders did not allow us to vote on issues like marriage. Korea has become more and more democratic giving people a voice. I have been a US citizen for more than 30 years and I see America and Hawaii becoming less democratic--the political elite not allowing the people to vote on those issues, such as marriage, that impact us and our families. Why won't you let us the people of Hawaii decide how to define marriage. Please don't become what Korea was. Respectfully, Yong Melton Waipahu, Hawaii 96797

## Testimony in opposition to SB1

Prior to the Special Session, most of the discussions revolved around giving churches exemptions from being forced to perform Same Sex Wedding Ceremonies.

- But I have always maintained that we were already protected by the first amendment of the US Constitution, *“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof;”*

What many forget is that as a pastor, I am not about performing a wedding ceremony,

- I am about helping couples establish godly marriages.
- No law can prevent that.

However, for many in the wedding industry, they will be forced to go against their religious conscience and provide services.

- The Muslim Photographer
- Or the Jewish Wedding Planner
- Or the Christian justice of the peace
- Will now be forced by our government to provide services to a group of people whose lifestyle choice stands in direct violation of the Scriptures these three major religions believe.

When I brought this up, one former law maker’s callous answer was they could change occupations!

- Really?
- That is the kind of answer I would expect from country that is not free.
- I would expect in America – freedom.
- Freedom to choose whom to do business with.

After all we are not talking about a civil right on par with a RACE.

- You don't choose your race.
- But you do choose to be Gay or Lesbian.
- We are talking about a lifestyle choice.
- We are talking about a moral choice.

My main concern goes beyond the ceremony.

- My main concern is that we are rushing through in a special session a law which will bring about a societal shift unlike any legislation ever passed in Hawaii.

Thus, my encouragement to all of you law makers, is to "Let the People Decide."

- Put it up for a vote.

**"Let the People Decide!"**





To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

31  
10/28/13 10:00a

From: Donelhe Caruso

Address: 91-1169 Aiamaeole St #23

Ewa, HI 96706

Phone: 772-2199

Subject: SBI

### TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL

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. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. 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.

Signature: 

Testify In Person

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

31  
10/28/13 10:00a

From: Michael K. Davis

Address: 522 HOOLU ST.

KAILUA, HI. 96734

Phone: 808 349-~~XXXXXX~~ 90740.

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION  
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

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. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: Michael K. Davis  
Testify In Person

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Val Domingo

Address: 44-134 Kawinohia Pl.

Kaneohe HI 96744

Phone: 808-780-3698

Subject: ~~0000~~ SBI

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION  
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

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. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature:

*Val Domingo*  
Testify In Person

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

31  
10/28/13 10:00a

From: Francis Domingo

Address: 44-134 Kaulahele Pl.

Kaneohe HI 96744

Phone: 808-551-2941

Subject: SBI


**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION  
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

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. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Testify in Person

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

31  
10/26/13 10:00a

From: Shawn Domingo

Address: 44-134 Kaimohea Pl.

Kaneohe Hi 96744

Phone: 808-585-1011

Subject: ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ SBI

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION  
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

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. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: Shawn Domingo

Testify In Person

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

31  
10/28/13 10:00a

From: Cheryl Doo

Address: 40 P.O. 342125

Kailua, HI 96734

Phone: Private

Subject: SBI

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION  
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

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. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. 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.

Signature: Cheryl Doo

Testify In Person

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

31  
10/28/13 10:00a

From: Ned Darone

Address: 7192 Kalanianaʻole Hwy  
Ste A143A #101 Honolulu HI 96825

Phone: 312-3578

Subject: SBI

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION  
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

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. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. 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.

Signature: Ned Darone

*Testify In Person*



To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13 <sup>31</sup> 10AM

From: Tazmon Kaawali

Address: 53-912 b Kam Hwy  
Hawula, HI 96717

Phone: 099-0577

Subject: SBI

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION  
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

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Signature: Tazmon Kaawali

Testify in person

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

31  
10/28/13 10:00a

From: DEBORAH DARONE

Address: 7192 Kalamianale Hwy  
Ste A143A #171 Honolulu, HI 96825

Phone: 312-3578

Subject: SBI

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AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

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Signature: Deborah Darone  
Testify In Person

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

31  
10/28/13 10AM

From: Zane Kaauai

Address: 57-9126 Kam Hwy  
Hanalei, HI 96717

Phone: 699-6577

Subject: SBI

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION  
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

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Signature: Zane Kaauai

Testify in person

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

3)  
10/28/13 IOAM

From: Willis Kapaali

Address: 2964 Lae Lae Way

Hon. H. 9689

Phone: 808-673-5188

Subject: SBI

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

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Signature: Willis Kapaali

Testify in person

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

31  
10/28/13 10:00a

From: FABIOLA DIAS

Address: 41-538 Mekia St.

Waimanalo HI 96795

Phone: (808) 494-6710

Subject: SBI

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION  
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

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Signature: Fabiola Dias

Testify In Person

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

31  
10/28/13 10:00a

From: VINCE ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ DIAS

Address: 41-538 MEKIA ST. WAIMANALO

HAWAII, 96795

Phone: (808) 494-6710

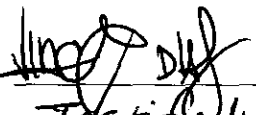
Subject: SIB1

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Signature: 

Testifying In Person