

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.

Stephen Palmer  
Honolulu, HI 96816

To: The House Judiciary Committee  
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Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sheila Faumuina  
Honolulu, HI 96816

10/29/2013

Faleasiu Hvidding: ehvidding@gmail.com

92-6050 Kalemakapii St.  
Kapolei Kapolei HI 96707

"To: House Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.  
Place: Capitol Auditorium  
Re: Strong Opposition of SB1 WILL TESTIFY IN PERSON

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Faleasiu Hvidding  
Kapolei, HI,96707

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Lance Okamura  
Honolulu, HI 96816



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Sharon Okamura  
Honolulu, HI 96816

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Michael Meli  
Honolulu, HI 96816

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Valerie Meli  
Honolulu, HI 96816

10/29/2013

Rikki Kim: Kimr091@gmail.com

95-644 Alohilani  
Street Mililani HI 96789

"To: House Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.  
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Thank you for the opportunity to testify.  
Rikki Kim  
Mililani, HI, 97890

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Isikeli Kava  
Honolulu, HI 96816

**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:** David Tveraas  
2464 Prince Edward Street Apt 902  
Honolulu, HI 96815  
Davidtveraas@hotmail.com

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

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Chair Luke, and members of the House Committees on Judiciary and Finance, I am in comitted support of SB 1. It come down to an issue of consent and choice. Two adults who are able to consent can make a choice to love each other and be legally bound. I am a straight man who may chose to love and marry a woman, but the choice for me to love and marry a man is denied to me. Why are my liberties being restricted? There is no reason at all. Opponents to SB 1 argue that passing it will somehow restrict their liberties. This is the opposite of the truth. SB 1 does not restrict them. SB 1 does not require anything of a private citizen. SB 1 grants everyone the right to marry the consenting adult they choose. Even SB 1 opponents gain liberty when SB 1 passes. There is no reason not to pass SB 1. There are many reason to pass SB 1 other than enhancing everyone's liberty. It would bring more commerce and trade to the state. I'm a registered officiant in Hawaii and I would like to conduct ceremonies for those who wish to be married. Marriages are costly affairs, so a lot of money will be spent in Hawaii when SB 1 passes. All reason leads to passing SB 1. Please pass this bill to allow for marriage equality for all of Hawaii's families. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

**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:** Susan Roth  
678 Kalanipuu St.  
Honolulu, HI 96816  
hi2mom@aol.com

**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 strongly in favor of SB 1. I have to admit that in 1998, I didn't realize that some of the LGBT (lesbian, gay, bi and transgender) community really wanted to get married, to receive the benefits of their social security and taxes, or even become a family. I thought, as a group, they were self sufficient and able to hire lawyers to settle any legal questions that may arise. What was the big deal? I voted against equality for all. Our son came out to us a few years later, and I began to learn what it means to be gay. In fact, I was surprised at how many gay people I already knew...doctors, lawyers, military personnel, city and state employees, teachers, and religious... the list goes on and on. Quite understandably, most of these people kept this part of their lives a secret. It brought tears to my eyes when young people and even people close to my age would describe being rejected by their own families after they shared their "secret". I wish I could take back the vote I cast in 1998. Unfortunately, I have to live with that; but at least I can support efforts today to achieve marriage equality. Please pass SB 1 so that we can take this important step toward a world in which everyone can live together with love, honesty, and understanding. Mahalo.

10/29/2013

Caroline Osborne: cfuiava@gmail.com

1235 Ala Kapuna St  
Apt 105 Honolulu HI 96819

**To: House Committee on Judiciary and Labor**  
**Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.**  
**Place: Capitol Auditorium**  
**Re: Strong Opposition of SB1 WILL TESTIFY IN PERSON**

Dear Chair Rhoads of the House Committee on Judiciary and Chair Luke of the House Committee on 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 strongly believe the legislature is going against the will of the people, their constituents. I support equality for all including the rights of conscience and religious freedom, which I humbly 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, especially by leaders who choose to circumvent the democratic process that has been upheld for hundreds of years. And so 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 in January where it can be properly vetted and examined as all other bills, which will not happen in this special session. We, the people who elected you to serve as our voices should have a say in public policy that will forever reshape our society, education and families. It will also obliterate thousands of years of indigenous and non-native culture, customs and traditions. Your "yes" vote in this special session is clearly a "NO" vote to democracy!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Caroline Osborne  
Honolulu, HI 96819

"



**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:** John (Jaime) Harrington, III, M.D.  
3037 Lincoln Ave  
Honolulu, HI 96816  
jaime.harrington@gmail.com

**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. I am a board-certified pediatric intensivist, in other words, a doctor who takes care of Hawai'i's sickest children from after the newborn period to age 21 years. If a child's heart or lungs stop working, I help put them on a heart-lung bypass machine, a procedure which may allow the non-functioning organs time to heal. To do what I do I graduated from college magna cum laude, graduated from a top ten Ivy League medical school with both honors in research and in the national medical honor society, and spent three years each in two of the nation's finest training hospitals. I've spent the last nine years striving to do my best caring for the children of Hawai'i. Because of my scholarship in medical school I was awarded an international fellowship and spent a year in Rio de Janeiro studying tuberculosis, and there met Alex Ribeiro, the man of my dreams, 17 years ago this December 7th. My parents were supportive and they provided the initial sponsorship for Alex to study in the United States. In 2004, I followed Alex to Hawai'i where he had come the year before to join the nation's only doctoral program of architecture. Following his graduation, Alex worked for the Bishop Museum, responsible for making the drawings that would turn its Polynesian Hall into the Pacific Hall. On July 10th, 2012, though we had been together almost 15 years, we had no mechanism to keep Alex in the country legally, and so he moved back to Brazil. This summer, following the United States Supreme Court decision that Section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act was unconstitutional, we applied for our fiancé visa which has the requirement of us marrying within 90 days of arrival in the United States. I relay this personal and detailed background to fulfill my civic duty and provide a first hand account of our experiences because the legislation you are debating directly impacts our lives. We wish to marry here in Hawai'i, as it is our home. Our friends, family and colleagues want to celebrate with us. Either cost or duration preclude long journeys for many of my family. Marrying in California deprives us of that support during one of life's most significant events. Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter. Sincerely, John (Jaime) J. Harrington, III, M.D.

To: The House Judiciary Committee  
The House Finance Committee  
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.  
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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.

Sala Kava  
Honolulu, HI 96816

**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:** Barb Travis  
91-999 La'aulu St., Unit F  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706  
barbtravis@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 strongly urge you to support the freedom to marry for same-sex couples; like all people, gay and lesbian couples want to marry because of love, commitment, and the desire to build a strong ohana. It is only fair and just that all people be given the opportunity to share in the freedom to marry, as well as all its rights and responsibilities. I am a practicing Catholic, and as such, I find the attacks by my Church on this legislation both unfair and debasing. I believe in the Church's doctrine of "right conscience," which is rooted in Scripture, tradition, and Church teaching. Using these three guidelines, I have been convinced for many years, that GLB persons have the right to marry and raise a family if they choose. I am ashamed of the bias and homophobia being proclaimed by my Church, which at the same time, proclaims "social justice" as one of their basic principles. Voting against this legislation is not an act of social justice but rather institutional prejudice. Marriage is a choice and a commitment that is not taken lightly by anyone, but in particular by GLB persons who have had to fight and suffer the prejudice of society for decades, as chronicled in our history books. No Church, Catholic or other denomination, will be forced into anything they regard as against their doctrines because Section 572 G addresses their freedom to refuse to host such ceremonies or allow use of their facilities. Therefore, I believe this section is essential as part of this law when it is passed. We, the people, have given you our input, and we are ready and willing to support this law giving freedom and equality to everyone. We are depending on your intelligence and compassion as representatives of the people of Hawaii to enact the Marriage Equality Act. Barbara Travis, Ewa Beach, HI

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Jarod Okamura  
Honolulu, HI 96816

**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  
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**From:** Joe Wilson  
P.O. Box 688  
Haleiwa, HI 96712  
qwavesjoe@yahoo.com

**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. I have been a resident of the North Shore of O'ahu for nearly ten years and an advocate for social, economic, environmental justice and human rights for more than 30 years. I continue this work now as a documentary filmmaker for public television. "Out In The Silence," a PBS film I made with my husband of ten years, Dean Hamer, is about the quest for fairness and equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people in rural and small town America. It won an Emmy Award in 2010. I offer this testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT of SB1 and all efforts to achieve inclusion, dignity, respect and full equal rights under the law for LGBT and all members of the human family. For my entire life, I have suffered from and been witness to the marginalization, bullying, harassment, violence and discrimination born of anti-gay bigotry. In my experience, these anti-gay campaigns have most often, and most vociferously, been fostered by those who claim some sort of fundamentalist religious beliefs and have taken place in front of parents, teachers, preachers, politicians and other community leaders and authorities who shamefully did nothing to prevent such terror, and worse, condoned it with their silence. I applaud all those who make strong arguments for why lesbian and gay people should finally be included in the civil institution of marriage. But I believe, that after centuries of exclusion from the life of our communities, we are finally at a very different place in this struggle. It is no longer OUR burden to explain our humanity or to beg that our human dignity or right to equality be recognized and respected. Rather, it is your burden, as public servants and as our representatives in government, to explain why state-sanctioned discrimination against your gay and lesbian tax-paying, families, friends, neighbors and constituents should be tolerated for even one more day. Please, do the right thing. Pass SB1, enact marriage equality in Hawai'i now, and remember that this is not the end, but merely the beginning of the urgent work necessary to end the harms that have been done to LGBT people in the name of religion, tradition, and state-sanctioned discrimination -- and to begin to make our communities whole again. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

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Merlin K. Makahi  
Honolulu, HI 96816

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Representative Sylvia Luke, Finance Committee Chair  
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Representative Scott Nishimoto, Finance Committee Vice-Chair  
Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Finance Committee Vice-Chair

**From:** Louis Ramirez  
1634 Makiki St. OFC-104  
Honolulu, HI 96822  
lframirez08@gmail.com

**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. The freedom to marry the person you love is a basic freedom that should not be denied to anyone and we must change NOW! We are people too - we love, we hurt, we want a family, we want to adopt and help others! We want what you want and have - let us have the freedoms that you have - it is only fair! Hawaii is family - you may see many devout loving Christians say we are not their family, but we are! We are black, white, brown and tan. We are all across the state putting on that smile, but knowing that we are not equal. No one should feel this way because of who they are or who they love. Don't you agree? Many ask me over and over again, "When are you getting married? When is the big day?" And I tear up inside and out because I don't have that right. Why plan something so spectacular and big when it isn't even a right I have!! How embarrassing that feels for not only myself, but for many! Do you know how that feels and hurts deep inside? Think about that. This isn't about religion or Jesus. And if it was, Jesus would want all of us to love each other and to be happy. Isn't that what he taught us? To love one another and to treat each other the way we want to be treated. "So I say to you, Ask and it will be given to you; search and you will find; knock and the door will be opened for you" he said. Well I am asking for the freedom to love, I have searched and I have found the love of my life. Now I am knocking on the door of freedom and it will be opened for all! Please pass this bill to allow for marriage equality for all of Hawaii's families. "Love the Lord with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind . . . and love your neighbor as yourself." ~Jesus Christ, Matt. 22:37-39 Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



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Sione Kava Jr.  
Honolulu, HI 96816



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Nathan Taylor  
Honolulu, HI 96816

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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:** Willy Shum  
1200 Queen Emma Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
wsjk0912@aol.com

**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. I am a same sex partner of 26 years to a Vietnam veteran, who is living with Agent Orange presumptive disabilities: Parkinson's Disease and ischemic heart disease, and combat-related disabilities: PTSD, back injuries among others. The every day care which I have been providing is no less than any other provided by straight spouses to their disabled love ones. It is vital for us to be protected as equal to straight surviving spouses. However, time is against us, and no one can tell what tomorrow will bring. Further time consumes in passing the Hawaii Marriage Equity Bill will in no doubt put our lives in the later years in question. Why deny the gay spouses over 1000 justified federal benefits already available to straight spouses? Did my partner not make the same life threatening sacrifices as his straight comrades? President Obama had just made an executive decision on Sept 4, 2013 to dismantle federal barriers to same-sex marriages, announced that the Department of Veteran Affairs would immediately begin spousal benefits to gay men and lesbians despite a federal statute that limits such benefits to veterans' spouses who are of the opposite sexes. Equality for all citizens is not a matter of majority rules, and civil rights are not matters that can be defined by religion. Marriage licenses are issued by the state not the church, which is precisely why America was founded on the separation of church and state. The bill as presented to you by the Governor has, to my belief, fairly protected the religious rights. This is a just bill which protects all concerns to the greatest degree possible. There will not be a perfect bill which offers 100% protection from future legal challenges. Thriving for that will only further delay the due process. I urge you to follow our Commander-in-Chief's example in executing a speedy special session to legalize same-sex marriage. Stand up and be counted, vote for equality for all. Do the right thing. The time is NOW. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.  
Respectfully, Willy Shum Queen Emma Street Honolulu, HI 96813

**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:** JR Keoneakapu Williams  
85-1029 Mahi'aina St  
Waianae, HI 96792  
Jrkeoneakapu@gmail.com

**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. The freedom to marry the person you love is a basic freedom that should not be denied to anyone. Gay and lesbian couples get married for similar reasons as everyone else - to make a lifetime promise of love, commitment and fidelity to the person they love. In Hawaii, we don't turn our backs on family. No member of anyone's ohana - gay or straight - should have to face shame because of who they are and who they love. The government should not be in the business of telling people who they can and cannot marry. None of us would want to be told that it is illegal to marry the person we love. Please pass this bill to allow for marriage equality for all of Hawaii's families. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

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.

Sarah Fatongia  
Honolulu, HI 96816

**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:** Ryan Tam  
1009 Kapiolani Blvd. #1110  
Honolulu, HI 96814  
rtam@alum.mit.edu

**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 in strong support of SB 1. In my hand, I have a ring. Rings like these symbolize a commitment, a public sign of how two people choose to intertwine their lives, their friends and families, to make each other happy (and maybe also miserable, too). But rings are only a symbol. As a civil society, we also attach legal rights and benefits to these symbols. We call these rights marriage. Today, the federal government recognizes marriage between any two people. 14 States and the District of Columbia do the same. Today, however, this particular ring has less meaning than other rings. While the commitment which it symbolizes might be the same as other rings, it comes with far fewer legal rights and benefits---here in this land. Is that righteous? Here, we're brought up to always take care of the minority. Your actions in favor of SB 1 will demonstrate this responsibility. Much more important than extending the legal rights and benefits, however, your actions will also be a symbol of righteousness. They will be a symbol to those who doubt themselves, who hide from their families and friends, and to those who even try to to hide from life. It is your responsibility to support SB 1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

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.

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Amelia Mell  
Honolulu, HI 96816

**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:** Christopher Williams  
318 A Kuulei Road  
Kailua, HI 96734  
engineer@systemsintegrationgroup.com

**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. The freedom to marry the person you love is a basic freedom that should not be denied to anyone. Gay and lesbian couples get married for similar reasons as everyone else – to make a lifetime promise of love, commitment and fidelity to the person they love. In Hawaii, we don't turn our backs on family. No member of anyone's ohana – gay or straight – should have to face shame because of who they are and who they love. The government should not be in the business of telling people who they can and cannot marry. None of us would want to be told that it is illegal to marry the person we love. Please pass this bill to allow for marriage equality for all of Hawaii's families. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

10/29/2013

Cindy Baughman: cindyb@hawaii.rr.com

91-1031 Hokuwekiu St.  
Kapolei HI 96707

**"To: House Committee on Judiciary and Labor**  
**Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.**  
**Place: Capitol Auditorium**  
**Re: Strong Opposition of SB1 WILL TESTIFY IN PERSON**

Dear Chair Rhoads of the House Committee on Judiciary and Chair Luke of the House Committee on 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.

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

"



**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:** sonja monteiro  
421 prospect st  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
sunny\_z80@yahoo.com

**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. The freedom to marry the person you love is a basic freedom that should not be denied to anyone. Gay and lesbian couples get married for similar reasons as everyone else – to make a lifetime promise of love, commitment and fidelity to the person they love. In Hawaii, we don't turn our backs on family. No member of anyone's ohana – gay or straight – should have to face shame because of who they are and who they love. The government should not be in the business of telling people who they can and cannot marry. None of us would want to be told that it is illegal to marry the person we love. Please pass this bill to allow for marriage equality for all of Hawaii's families. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

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.

Ariana Taylor  
Honolulu, HI 96816

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.

Natalia Taylor  
Honolulu, HI 96816

**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:** Michal Anne Rogondino  
678 Kalanipuu St.  
Honolulu, HI 96825  
michalanne@rocketcom.com

**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. My family requests your support in recognizing our civil rights and granting us recognition and equality in our marriage. We are a family that consists of two mothers and two sons. Our children have attended school in Hawaii from kindergarten. Our oldest son graduated from Punahou and our younger son is at MidPac. We are as normal as any other family. We have a mini van, a mortgage, a dog, and two well paying jobs. We pay taxes and participate in the community. By allowing the majority to vote on the rights for a minority you are not protecting the minority. Your job is to protect your constituents. We are not asking to change peoples religious beliefs or rights, but we are requesting that you protect us from the discrimination their religion poses to us and our families. In the testimony given on Monday October 28, every request made in opposition to SB1 was based on religious beliefs. Their religious beliefs are contrary to our religious beliefs, which I request you protect. I do not want to diminish their right to their beliefs, but they are asking that their beliefs dictate our families rights. Please protect us and pass this bill to allow for marriage equality for all of Hawaii's families. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

10/29/2013

Jadelyn White mlauano@yahoo.com 94-103 Pupuole Place #B Waipahu HI 96797

To: House Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.  
Place: Capitol Auditorium  
Re: Strong Opposition of SB1 WILL TESTIFY IN PERSON

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

I am writing to voice my opposition to Bill SB1.

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.

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 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.

Therefore, 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.

Jadelyn White  
94-103 Pupuole Place #B  
Waipahu, HI 96797"

**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:** tre Martines-Melim  
3464 Kalua road  
Honolulu, HI 96816  
tremartinesmelim@gmail.com

**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. The freedom to marry the person you love is a basic freedom that should not be denied to anyone. Gay and lesbian couples get married for similar reasons as everyone else - to make a lifetime promise of love, commitment and fidelity to the person they love. In Hawaii, we don't turn our backs on family. No member of anyone's ohana - gay or straight - should have to face shame because of who they are and who they love. The government should not be in the business of telling people who they can and cannot marry. None of us would want to be told that it is illegal to marry the person we love. Please pass this bill to allow for marriage equality for all of Hawaii's families. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

**10/29/2013**

**Lukas Brooksby dfbrook@yahoo.com 94-068 Puanane Loop Milliani HI 96789**

**To: House Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.  
Place: Capitol Auditorium  
Re: Strong Opposition of SB1 WILL TESTIFY IN PERSON**

**Dear Chair Rhoads of the House Committee on Judiciary and Chair Luke of the House Committee on 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.**

**Lukas Brooksby  
Milliani, HI 96789**

**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:** Darin Padula  
391 Kaumakani St.  
Honolulu, HI 96825  
darin.padula@gmail.com

**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, No ones private religious belief should inform public policy decision! Though I am an ordained clergy person, I know that no 'higher calling' should impinge on the universal, 'god-given' rights of others. Also, for the love of all that is logical, please do not believe the bigoted propoganda being spread about the societal downfall, post marriage equality, of Canada and Massachusetts. Al so, New Hope Church should be stripped of their tax-exemption, as they have violated basic tenents of our Constitution and Bill of Rights. The go vernment should not be in the b



**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:** sunil lee  
saratoga road  
honolulu, HI 96815  
ddokddokne@nate.com

**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. The freedom to marry the person you love is a basic freedom that should not be denied to anyone. Gay and lesbian couples get married for similar reasons as everyone else – to make a lifetime promise of love, commitment and fidelity to the person they love. In Hawaii, we don't turn our backs on family. No member of anyone's ohana – gay or straight – should have to face shame because of who they are and who they love. The government should not be in the business of telling people who they can and cannot marry. None of us would want to be told that it is illegal to marry the person we love. Please pass this bill to allow for marriage equality for all of Hawaii's families. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

**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:** Alisha Rego  
PO Box 1573  
Aiea, HI 96701  
meesha808@yahoo.com

**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. The freedom to marry the person you love is a basic freedom that should not be denied to anyone. Gay and lesbian couples get married for similar reasons as everyone else – to make a lifetime promise of love, commitment and fidelity to the person they love. In Hawaii, we don't turn our backs on family. No member of anyone's ohana – gay or straight – should have to face shame because of who they are and who they love. The government should not be in the business of telling people who they can and cannot marry. None of us would want to be told that it is illegal to marry the person we love. Please pass this bill to allow for marriage equality for all of Hawaii's families. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

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

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Isikeli Kava  
Honolulu, HI 96816

**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:** Lynn Onderko  
91-1199 Waiemi  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706  
lynnronderko@gmail.com

**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. The freedom to marry the person you love is a basic freedom that should not be denied to anyone. Gay and lesbian couples get married for similar reasons as everyone else – to make a lifetime promise of love, commitment and fidelity to the person they love. In Hawaii, we don't turn our backs on family. No member of anyone's ohana – gay or straight – should have to face shame because of who they are and who they love. The government should not be in the business of telling people who they can and cannot marry. None of us would want to be told that it is illegal to marry the person we love. Please pass this bill to allow for marriage equality for all of Hawaii's families. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

10/29/2013

Derek Baughman: dbaughman@icloud.com

91-1031 Hokuwekiu St.  
Kapolei HI 96707

**To: House Committee on Judiciary and Labor**  
**Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.**  
**Place: Capitol Auditorium**  
**Re: Strong Opposition of SB1 WILL TESTIFY IN PERSON**

Dear Chair Rhoads of the House Committee on Judiciary and Chair Luke of the House Committee on 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.

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**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:** Shawna Jordan  
222 Kaiulani ave #206  
Honolulu, HI 96815  
shawnamjordan@comcast.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. The freedom to marry the person you love is a basic freedom that should not be denied to anyone. Gay and lesbian couples get married for similar reasons as everyone else - to make a lifetime promise of love, commitment and fidelity to the person they love. In Hawaii, we don't turn our backs on family. No member of anyone's ohana - gay or straight - should have to face shame because of who they are and who they love. The government should not be in the business of telling people who they can and cannot marry. None of us would want to be told that it is illegal to marry the person we love. Please pass this bill to allow for marriage equality for all of Hawaii's families. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

10/29/2013

Jaime S Doctolero kdoctolero@mac.com 94-828 Lumiauau St N204 Waipahu HI 96797

To: House Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.  
Place: Capitol Auditorium  
Re: Strong Opposition of SB1 WILL TESTIFY IN PERSON

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

I am a registered voter and I want to voice my opposition to Bill SB1.

This issue is larger than "simply" allowing same-sex-couples the official title of "married". If it was truly that simple I don't think the opposition would be so great. I believe that the potential ramifications of changing the definition of marriage needs to be given appropriate time to be explored, discovered and made known to the public. And once that due-diligence has been done and the facts laid-bare, for the people of Hawaii to be given the opportunity to cast their vote as is proper in our democratic society.

The culture of this State places special care and attention on our children and we only have to look at fellow states and the changes legalized same-sex-marriage has wrought on the education system to see that for the sake of our Keiki we better take this discussion slowly and seriously. I think we can all agree that our children deserve that much and more. What SB1 in special session amounts to is a shotgun wedding that will forever change this State.

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.

Jaime S Doctolero  
Waipahu, HI 96797

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.

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Makayla Okamura  
Honolulu, HI 96816



10/29/2013

Ioane Kaulia: iokaulia@gmail.com

89-348 Palikea St.  
Waianae HI 96792

"To: House Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.  
Place: Capitol Auditorium  
Re: Strong Opposition of SB1 WILL TESTIFY IN PERSON

Dear Chair Rhoads of the House Committee on Judiciary and Chair Luke of the House Committee on 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.

Ioane Kaulia  
Waianae, Hawaii, 96792

"

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:

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mieko A.K. Makahi  
Honolulu, HI 96816

**10/29/2013**

**David Wong conclint@gmail.com 94-108 Anania Dr. #238 Milliani HI 96789**

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

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

**Place: Capitol Auditorium**

**Re: Strong Opposition of SB1 WILL TESTIFY IN PERSON**

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**Thank you for the opportunity to testify.**

**David Wong  
Milliani, HI 96789**

10/29/2013

Jaime S Doctolero kdoctolero@mac.com 94-828 Lumiauu St N204 Waipahu HI 96797

To: House Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.  
Place: Capitol Auditorium  
Re: Strong Opposition of SB1 WILL TESTIFY IN PERSON

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

I am a registered voter and I want to voice my opposition to Bill SB1.

This issue is larger than "simply" allowing same-sex-couples the official title of "married". If it was truly that simple I don't think the opposition would be so great. I believe that the potential ramifications of changing the definition of marriage needs to be given appropriate time to be explored, discovered and made known to the public. And once that due-diligence has been done and the facts laid-bare, for the people of Hawaii to be given the opportunity to cast their vote as is proper in our democratic society.

The culture of this State places special care and attention on our children and we only have to look at fellow states and the changes legalized same-sex-marriage has wrought on the education system to see that for the sake of our Keiki we better take this discussion slowly and seriously. I think we can all agree that our children deserve that much and more. What SB1 in special session amounts to is a shotgun wedding that will forever change this State.

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.

Jaime S Doctolero  
Waipahu, HI 96797

10/29/2013

Lianalouise Hiongson: [liana\\_hiongson@hotmail.com](mailto:liana_hiongson@hotmail.com)

P.O.Box 75349 48 Belleau Woods  
Kapolei HI 96707

To: House Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.  
Place: Capitol Auditorium  
Re: Strong Opposition of SB1 WILL TESTIFY IN PERSON

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**10/29/2013**

**Conrad Wong conclnt@gmail.com 94-108 Anania Dr. #238 Mililani HI 96789**

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

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

**Place: Capitol Auditorium**

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**Thank you for the opportunity to testify.**

**Conrad Wong  
Mililani, HI 96789**

10/29/2013

Maki Catlett: mkmacatlett@hotmail.com

87-103 Kulakoa Place  
87-103 Kulakoa Place Waianae HI 96792

"To: House Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.  
Place: Capitol Auditorium  
Re: Strong Opposition of SB1 WILL TESTIFY IN PERSON

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

I am writing to voice my opposition to Bill SB1.

I believe that the same sex marriage is not for Hawaii and America!!  
Please don't decide without our vote!!  
Please let us decide!! This is America which is a democracy!!

There are many people who have HIV because of thire sexual behavior.  
Please don't increase HIV in the beautiful island of Hawaii...

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!

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Maki Catlett  
Waianae, Hawaii 96792"

To: The House Judiciary Committee  
The House Finance Committee  
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.  
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Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Airi Kurihara  
Honolulu, HI 96816



10/29/2013

Monica Neypes: monica.l.neypes@gmail.com

125 7th Street  
Honolulu HI 96819

"To: House Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.  
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Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Monica Neypes  
Honolulu, HI 96819

"

**10/29/2013**

**Hoolulani Aolahiko hoolulaniaolahiko@yahoo.com 3398 kalihi st#b Honolulu HI 96819**

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

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

**Place: Capitol Auditorium**

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**Thank you for the opportunity to testify.**

**Hoolulani Aolahiko**

**Honolulu, HI 96819**

**10/29/2013**

**Jan Bernal jantbernal@gmail.com 95-1072 Loea St, Mililani HI 96789**

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

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

**Place: Capitol Auditorium**

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**Thank you for the opportunity to testify.**

**Jane Bernal  
Mililani, HI 96789"**

**10/29/2013**

**Davin Akagi Churchwp@gmail.com 91-1032 Ama Ama St., Ewa Beach HI 96706**

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

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

**Place: Capitol Auditorium**

**Re: Strong Opposition of SB1 WILL TESTIFY IN PERSON**

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

**I am writing to voice my opposition to Bill SB1.**

**The definition of marriage is essential to the beliefs of many religions and people of faith. If marriage is legally redefined to include same-sex couples, enormous legal and social pressure will mount against churches and religious people who believe in the traditional definition of marriage.**

**I am 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.**

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**Thank you for the opportunity to testify.**

**Davin Akagi  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706**

**10/29/2013**

**James Marquez marquezjay@rocketmail.com 94-1479 Waipio Uka Street #F105 Waipahu HI 96797**

**To: House Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.  
Place: Capitol Auditorium  
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**Thank you for the opportunity to testify.**

**James Marquez  
Waipahu, HI 96797**

10/29/2013

Alexandra Reed litareed@gmail.com 95-318 Kaloapau St., #167 Milliani HI 96789

To: House Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.  
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Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Alexandra Reed  
Milliani, HI 96789

10/29/2013

Clinton Wong conclint@gmail.com 94-108 Anania Dr. #238 Millilani HI 96789

To: House Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.  
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Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Richard Caldwell  
Wahiawa, Hawaii 96786

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Clinton Wong  
Millilani, HI, 96789

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

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Emberly Valgardson  
Honolulu, HI 96816



10/29/2013

Jacquelyn Franco  
92-984 Panana Street #11  
Kapolei, HI 96707

To: House Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.  
Place: Capitol Auditorium  
Re: Strong Opposition of SB1 WILL TESTIFY IN PERSON

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

My testimony is as follows:

I completely oppose SB 1 and would not like to see this bill passed. I cannot understand why this bill has NOT come to the people for our vote and frankly, the fact that my vote is being taken away is completely unacceptable. I have listened to many testimonies on the very first day of the session and unless I am not hearing correctly, the majority of these testimonies were opposing SB 1 just as I am.

The people of Hawaii has made it very, very clear that we do NOT want this bill passed, but even louder voices shouted to "let the people vote"! Why does the Governor and legislators who are in favor of SB 1 think that our votes are not necessary? None of the answers given from the legislators or the Governor can answer this simple question, "why can't they let the people vote"? The answers that were given by all of these leaders are missing truths and this is wrong.

The opposition may feel that their right to equality is at stake here, but what is really at stake here is something greater. If this bill passes there will be detrimental ramifications that will cause such a ripple effect, even greater than you or I can imagine. Future generations, long after we are gone, will be bearing the harmful, damaging and destructive results of this decision and the Hawaii you and I were born and raised in and have grown to love will be gone forever, and YOUR posterity will have YOU to thank.

The people of Hawaii (all people) have every right to be given the opportunity to vote on an issue of such vital magnitude and consideration needs to be given to the people. I plead with you to hear my testimony along with thousands of others who feel the same as I do and allow us, the people to use our agency to vote. I believe that you know it is the right thing to do, please listen to your hearts and give this vote back to the people.

Respectfully,

Jacquelyn Franco  
92-984 Panana Street #11  
Kapolei Hawaii 96707

**10/29/2013**

**Jarrett Chun k+sichun@yahoo.com 95 Kahakiki St., Mililani HI 96789**

**To: House Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.  
Place: Capitol Auditorium  
Re: Strong Opposition of SB1 WILL TESTIFY IN PERSON**

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**Thank you for the opportunity to testify.**

**Jarrett Chun  
Mililani, HI 96789**

October 26, 2013

Testimony in OPPOSITION to SB1

For Hearing on 10/31/13

Karl Rhoads, Chair  
House Judiciary Committee

Sylvia Luke, Chair  
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:**

My name is Grace Alarcio and I STRONGLY OPPOSE SB1. My husband and I live in Ewa Beach. I am a mother of 4 children. I also do business as a Real Estate Agent for Realty Dynamics, LLC in Waipahu.

Thank you for taking the time to hear me. Your service to our state is a wonderful thing. It is a tough job at times and requires a lot of your time. Thank you and I pray God will bless you and your family. That you will know the love of God. That He will reveal Himself to you. That He will draw you by His loving kindness so that you may know Him. He is an amazing God. So full of love and goodness, a listening ear and a comforting presence. He is the Great I Am. He is everything we need. I am sorry if you cannot see the truth of who He is, and who the enemy is.

God loves all people. But He hates sin. Same sex relationships are an abomination to God. God created man first (Adam). Then out of man (Adam), He created Eve. She was created for Adam, to be his helpmeet. They were to multiply and fill the earth. Physical intimacy outside of marriage is sin. Intimacy between two men or two women is sin. If we as a state and a nation stand behind same sex marriages we open the door for the enemy to come in. Which is just like telling God to get out.

I STRONGLY OPPOSE SB1. I do not believe that same sex marriage is appropriate or right. I do NOT want my children to be taught that same sex relationships are normal or right. I believe marriage is ONLY between one man and one woman. If this bill gets passed then the State of Hawaii will be mandating that society has to accept same gender marriage as normal. BUT IT IS NOT NORMAL !! I am a citizen of the United States of America and a local resident of the State Of Hawaii. I do not want this bill passed.

I am greatly concerned that IF this bill should pass, the GLSEN will put their education curriculum into all public and private schools! This is already in the country of Canada. This same organization which was behind pushing same sex marriage in Canada is pushing it here in Hawaii. That would likely mean the education material will be pushed into our school system. The education material is filled with sexual content unfit to give to students, especially our young keiki. So sad to think that our legislature will allow this into our schools. If this SB1 bill passes, that's what will happen. I urge you to check this out for yourselves. It is true.

It is a terrible thing for the legislature to not allow the people of Hawaii to Vote. We the people should be allowed to vote. The representatives are to represent the people, the majority, NOT the minority.

There were over 1,000 people on Monday that wanted to testify but were turned away. Probably 99% of those people oppose the bill. I think the legislators are afraid to let the people speak and to vote. They are afraid the people will win and the bill will not be passed.

Yes we have allowed prayer to be taken out of our public schools and babies to be killed by abortion. We have been asleep, I have been asleep, in a sense. But we are awake now and we will no longer be passive and let things happen in our land of Aloha. We will stand up.

**I will be present to testify.**

Thank you,

Grace Alarcio

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Grace Alarcio". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Aloha kakou. O Meleanaikapu'uwai Gray kou inoa no kailua mai au  
Hi my name is Meleana gray and I'm from Kailua.

I am against same sex marriage because of the fact that I believe it is wrong for two women or two men to marry. God created Adam and Eve, man and woman. God created marriage to be strictly between a man and a woman even true natives Hawaiians here before missionaries came and knew that it took a man and a woman to complete a marriage.

I understand same sex supporters want the same rights as straight couples do like not getting denied visiting their partner in a hospital room (that is what I was told from a Representative on why she is voting for this bill) or getting tax benefits. I am fine with that, but please DO NOT FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE bring same sex marriage to Hawaii.

Supporters of same sex marriage please take in the fact that kids in public schools will have to learn this stuff after you pass it. Why are you forcing that upon us? I took a poll of my classmates and they don't want to learn this gross stuff that my parents don't even let me see until I'm MORE than age appropriate. Even then it's gross.

One day if I have a child do I want him or her to come home saying "mom today in sex Ed I learned how a man pleasures another man." ...really? Or how about as early as kindergarten learning about that being normal. Maybe it is normal for your family but following the bible is normal for mine. How come you get to force your ways on my family but I can't force you to respect and accept my family's ways?

Take the state of Massachusetts for example. They past same sex marriage along time ago and this is what their high schoolers have to learn. Most kids don't want to learn about straight couples and what they do in the bedroom, what makes you think that they will feel comfortable learning about gay couples.

What about the churches? They will loose their freedom of speech if they speak or teach against same sex marriage and their pastors will have to marry the couples or they will be sued. You say no but other states that already past the law are still doing it. Church buildings will have to be used for marriages even if the church is against it. That's not right for other people to suffer just because of their beliefs.

Photographers(my Aunty), cake makers, DJs, suit tailors, wedding dress makers, churches and receptionist will all have to take a part in this again if they're against it. That's not fair and that's not respecting peoples rights. Businesses in Hawaii are all runned by people and you are taking their rights away.

My question is for the Governor is why are you trying to pass this bill is it so that you make some people happy and get more votes in the next election or is it simply you want more people to come to Hawaii, either way it has to do with your choice and the next generations fate that lies in your hands, so please let the people make the decision.

Meleanaikapu'uwai Gray  
P.O. Box 878  
Kailua Hi. 96734

(808) 294-2966

kaohanagray@gmail.com

# INTERNATIONAL SISTERHOOD OF WITCHES AND AMALGAMATED MAGICKS

*Local 665, Honolulu, Hawaii*

October 30, 2013

Yngvildr Blzpaeth, G.M.  
Int. Sisterhood of Witches and Amalg. Magicks, Local 665  
P.O. Box 1901  
Honolulu, HI 96805

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for S.B. 1, Relating to Equal Rights

Hail and Gesundheit,

The International Sisterhood of Witches and Amalgamated Magicks, Local 665, ascends in strong support for the passage of Senate Bill 1, Relating to Equal Rights. This unholy union was formed through the recent merger of the International Sisterhood of Witches, Wise Women, and Sorceresses with the Consolidated Honorable Order of Amalgamated Magicks, Wizards, Seers, and Mystics, as you probably know.

Although many have claimed that the Prince of Darkness supports the legal recognition of civil marriages between same-sex couples, this is not true. Not to play the Devil's Advocate, but through a communion with the Evil One, the Sisters learned that he has no opinion on same-sex marriage, as he takes more souls from heterosexual people already. Hypocrisy and pride are two especially deadly sins.

However, given the sharply varying interpretations of the Bible you have heard, making this decision on the basis of what someone says is the will of the Hebrew god is as ridiculous as following Satan. When Bigotry is coated with Religion, it is still Bigotry, and is never elevated to "Morality" or even "Faith." Having been persecuted by so-called "Christians" for as long as homosexuals, often also burned alive like so-called "faggots" (hence the name), witches understand this keenly.

On the other hand, the federal tax benefits and state law protections that same-sex couples would gain through the passage of Senate Bill 1 would greatly aid local members of the International Sisterhood. While most lesbians are not witches, most witches are lesbians and consequently, they face constant discrimination against both their craft and religion.

Thank you for protecting the religious rights and family needs of the worthy members of the International Sisterhood of Witches and Amalgamated Magicks.

So it is Written,



Yngvildr Blzpaeth

Grand Mistress, Local 665

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee and Chair Sylvia Luke, Finance Committee  
Hearing Date & Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 10 am  
Hearing Location: Hawaii State Capitol  
Re: Strong Opposition to SB1, Relating to Equal Rights

From: Dr. Greg Head

City, State: Kaunua, HI 96734

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SB1, RELATING TO "EQUAL RIGHTS"  
Also known as the same sex "marriage" bill**

Dear Chair Rhoads and Chair Luke:

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this Special Session and the proposed bill that IF passed would legalize same sex "marriage," SB1, relating to Equal Rights. I oppose the Special Session because it rushes the democratic process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input in the legislative process.

I oppose this bill because it will infringe upon our freedoms protected under the First Amendment and will have far reaching consequences that nobody seems to be discussing. Whether it is the freedom of speech, education or employment, this bill IF passed would impact our future and forever change our history, customs and culture. Finally, we voted on a Constitutional Amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to reserve marriage to opposite-sex couples **only**. 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, SB1.

Dr. Greg Head  
Signature

10/30/13  
Date



# TYLER DOS SANTOS-TAM

2265 'Auli'i Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817-1530

tylerdst@gmail.com  
(808) 348-8885

October 29, 2013

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair  
and members  
Committee on Judiciary  
Hawai'i State House of Representatives  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
and members  
Committee on Finance  
Hawai'i State House of Representatives  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: Support for SB1 for joint JUD/FIN hearing, October 31, 2013, 10:00am.

Dear Chair Rhoads, Chair Luke, and members of the committees:

I write to express my strong support for Senate Bill 1, Relating to Equal Rights.

Hawaii is poised to become the 15th state in the nation to recognize same-sex marriage. Marriage equality in the Aloha State is long overdue. I strongly endorse the notion that two individuals that seek to enter into a marriage should be afforded the same rights and privileges as everyone else, regardless of their gender.

I also support marriage equality because I value the principles of nondiscrimination and justice for all. Hawaii has a long history of achieving equality in all sectors of life; from workers' rights to teachers' rights. It's time that we extend equal rights to our gay and lesbian friends, neighbors, and members of our 'ohana.

It's time for Hawaii to join the other states in the nation that already recognize marriage equality. I hope that you will take this opportunity to do the right thing and herald in a new era of equality and recognition that is long overdue.

Mahalo,





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

Hearing Date & Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 10 am

Hearing Location: Hawaii State Capitol

Re: Strong Opposition to SB1, Relating to Equal Rights

From:

Ricky Amours

City, State:

Milani, Hawaii

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SB1, RELATING TO "EQUAL RIGHTS"**  
Also known as the same sex "marriage" bill

Dear Chair Rhoads and Chair Luke:

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this Special Session and against this bill, SB1.

Signature

Ricky W. Amours

Date

10-30-13

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

Hearing Date & Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 10 am

Hearing Location: Hawaii State Capitol

Re: Strong Opposition to SB1, Relating to Equal Rights

From: Sharon Kanratti

City, State: Kailua, HI

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SB1, RELATING TO "EQUAL RIGHTS"**  
**Also known as the same sex "marriage" bill**

Dear Chair Rhoads and Chair Luke:

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Signature

10/30/13  
Date



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

Hearing Date & Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 10 am

Hearing Location: Hawaii State Capitol

Re: Strong Opposition to SB1, Relating to Equal Rights

From: Peter Karratti

City, State: Kaunoi, HI

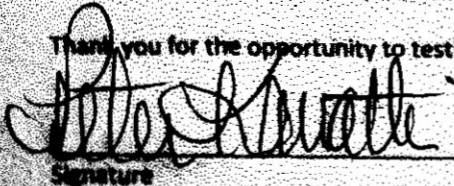
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**Also known as the same sex "marriage" bill**

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10/30/13  
Date

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

Hearing Date & Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 10 am

Hearing Location: Hawaii State Capitol

Re: Strong Opposition to SB1, Relating to Equal Rights

From:

*Diana Stewart*

City, State:

*Honolulu, HI 96744*

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SB1, RELATING TO "EQUAL RIGHTS"**

Also known as the same sex "marriage" bill

Dear Chair Rhoads and Chair Luke:

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this Special Session and the proposed bill that IF passed would legalize same sex "marriage," SB1, relating to Equal Rights. I oppose the Special Session because it rushes the democratic process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input in the legislative process.

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this Special Session and against this bill, SB1.

*Diana Stewart*

Signature

*10/28/2013*

Date



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

Hearing Date & Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 10 am

Hearing Location: Hawaii State Capitol

Re: Strong Opposition to SB1, Relating to Equal Rights

From: JOYME NOR

City, State: Kailua, HI


**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SB1, RELATING TO "EQUAL RIGHTS"**  
**Also known as the same sex "marriage" bill**

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this Special Session and against this bill, SB1.

Signature 

Date 10/29/13

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee and Chair Sylvia Luke, Finance Committee  
Hearing Date & Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 10 am  
Hearing Location: Hawaii State Capitol  
Re: Strong Opposition to SB1, Relating to Equal Rights

From: Christine Conner

City, State: Kailua, Hawaii

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SB1, RELATING TO "EQUAL RIGHTS"**  
**Also known as the same sex "marriage" bill**

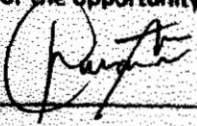
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Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this Special Session and against this bill, SB1.

Signature



Date

10/29/2013

**Subject:** Opposition to SB 1 before the House JUD / FIN  
**From:** "Leonard Tanaka - T&T Electric, Inc." <ltanaka@tntelectric.com>  
**Date:** Tue, 29 Oct 2013 22:23:08 -1000  
**To:** Hawaii Representatives <reps@capitol.hawaii.gov>  
**CC:** T- Suellen Tanaka <stanaka@tntelectric.com>

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SB 1 Hearing Date Oct. 31, 2013 at 10:00 am  
Committees on Judiciary and Finance  
Honorable Chairs Rhoades and Luke  
Honorable Representatives,

Its rare that I mix business with politics, however, when it has a severe detrimental impact on our business and families....I will to step forward and let my (our voices) be heard to protect our families and our liberty as businesses and individuals.

Marriage is a sacred union between a man and a woman that results in the creation of families. Children are entitled to be raised by a Father and a Mother..... that has been the plan from the beginning of mankind.

We are not against the individuals themselves, as we are taught to love all. But if they choose another path to their sexual gender and if they choose to be united, which Hawaii law currently allows (Civil Unions), that is their choice. We don't want our rights and freedoms taken away for the sake of a minority of our population (less than 5%) and suffer the consequences.

Here are a few bullet points on how we will be impacted if this Bill is passed:

- 1- **No protection for religious freedom and choices** - A same sex couple could go to any church and request that their vows and celebration be held there. If the churches turn them away, they can be sued.
- 2- **No protection for individuals and businesses** - A same sex couple could request your services (wedding photographer, florist, luau caterer, construction of their new home, etc.) and if you turn them away, you can be sued. There are current businesses and individuals that are being sued in other states right now. We want the freedom to choose if we want to provide the service or not.
- 3- **No protection for our children** - The State Department of Education will be mandated to include curriculum teaching and promoting homosexuality in our schools. Parents will not