

Name Malachi H. Kaufusi

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

RE: SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

Hearing Date: Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

From: Malachi H. Kaufusi

City, State: 94-334 Puuwaia St. #3

Subject: I will be testifying.

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SAME-SEX MARRIAGE BILL, SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

Dear Chair Rhoads and Chair Luke:

As a concerned, citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that 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 freedom of speech, education or employment, this bill will 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 limit marriage between opposite sex couples and did not give legislators the right to define marriage as we are finding out only now! The only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Why should less than a hundred people decide what's good for almost a million people that live here in Hawaii? Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill. I look forward to further instructions on obtaining my ticket number.

Signature:

Malachi H. Kaufusi

Date: 10/29/13

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 4:34 AM
To: House Special Session
Cc: tachycardia808@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM (In Person)

SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

Testimony for on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Lii Purcell	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I oppose SB1, HB6 and HB7 and the need to call this special session.

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

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

Name

Jon Pharis

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 thousands of years of indigenous and non-native culture, customs and traditions. Your "yes" vote in special session is clearly a NO vote to democracy!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Jon Pharis

Name

2104 Hoohai St

Address

Pearl City, HI 96782

Name: Mele Lauano White

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

I will be testifying
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Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mele Lauano White

Name
94-233 Pupule Pl, Apt. #B
Waijahu, HI 96797
Address

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: Hawaii: Alecia Turner

City, State: Wahiawa, 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:

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.

Alecia Turner
Signature

10-29-13
Date

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

My name is Greg Reuel, 59-175 Kamehameha and I am testifying for myself on Senate Bill 1. I am testifying in opposition to Senate Bill 1 and asked you to vote NO to the measure for these reasons:

There are a number of reasons that this bill should be voted down:

1. It is being done without a vote of the people.
2. God ordained marriage as the union of one man and one woman, this definition that will be taken out of current Hawaiian law is not a legislative decision.
3. There are still ambiguities in Senate Bill #1 as to what public accommodations are exempt from the bill.
4. No government bill should enforce restrictions on religious liberties and Senate Bill #1 is a shadow of that happening to the people of Hawaii.
5. Churches, businesses and schools should not be forced to teach same sex equality.

I hope you will seriously consider the aforementioned concerns. These matters are of great concern to the families and communities of Hawaii. Thank you for your consideration of my opinion.

Please vote NO on Senate Bill 1

Thanks you,

Gregory C. Reuel

59-178 Kamehameha Hwy. C-1

808-638-5511

(My name and address have been included in case you need to contact me)

Name - Angela Malaki

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

RE: SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

Hearing Date: Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

From: Angela Malaki

City, State: Waipahu, HI

Subject: I will be testifying.

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SAME-SEX MARRIAGE BILL, SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

Dear Chair Rhoads and Chair Luke:

As a concerned, citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that 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 freedom of speech, education or employment, this bill will 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 limit marriage between opposite sex couples and did not give legislators the right to define marriage as we are finding out only now! The only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Why should less then a hundred people decide what's good for almost a million people that live here in Hawaii? Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill. I look forward to further instructions on obtaining my ticket number.

Signature: Angela Malaki Date: 10/29/13

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 ask those Representatives who are UNDECIDED to vote NOto protect our way of life here in Hawaii.

I fear that if you vote to make same-sex marriage is legal it will only a matter of time, like in Massachusetts, that schools will have be required ,not a **CHOICE**, to portray homosexual relationships as normal to children.

Fear tactic you may say, **ONE MONTH** after same sex marriage was made legal in Mass, a local highschool organized a school-wide assembly to celebrate same-sex marriagewhere literature on same-sex marriage **how it is now a normal part of society** was handed out to the students.

I do not want my children to grow up in a Hawaii where they are forced in a public school, without my knowledge or consent, to learn about a lifestyle I do not support and labeled as a bigot or homophobic for our deep moral beliefs.

It's far more deep seeded than equality or benefits it's an agenda to define a new normal!

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. And look to our motto; Ua Mau Ke Ea O Ka Aina I Ka Pono. Our land our Hawaii

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

v/r

Harry Quemado

Mililani Resident

808-386-3617

Name: Nancy Merrick

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

I will be testifying

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

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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 thousands of years of indigenous and non-native culture, customs and traditions. Your "yes" vote in special session is clearly a NO vote to democracy!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Nancy Merrick

Name

91-6571 Kapolei Plwy

Ewa Beach HI 96706

Address

Name: Lupe Lucy Lanano

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

I will be testifying

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.

Lupe Lucy Lanano

Name

94-333 Pihoole St. Apt. #3

Address

Wapahua, HI 96797

Dear Members of the **House Judiciary and Finance Committees**

I strongly OPPOSE homosexual and lesbian marriages, especially in Hawaii. This has been rushed into Special Session. I feel that the Governor has NOT represented us as a whole in Hawai'i. He has not visited with the people to state the case and help us understand. It seems that he is representing himself and his agenda and NOT the people of Hawai'i. He is too ignorant to listen or consult with the Kupuna's who have lived here in the islands for many years. You can't rush into something that has never occurred in the islands for thousands of years, actually forever until now. Now our Kupuna's are being rushed to state their concerns, driving to Honolulu to participate in this 'Special Session'? AUWE!! No Respect For Our Kupunas!!

We love all people, no matter what their choice is. But some things are KAPU (sacred), such as 1 Kane and 1 Wahine in marriage. We don't need to follow other States, Hawai'i is UNIQUE.

We wonder what our traditional Far East visitors will do before choosing Hawaii as a destination to visit. Has someone survey them? How is this going to affect our tourism industry and us ALL? I hope someone did this research, if NOT – AUWE!! If there was research, please make findings public.

I am FOR traditional marriage; I was born in the 1960's, when Hawaii was a State. My single-mom was born in the 1930's, Hawaii was a Territory. Both my grandparents were born in 1903. My great-grandparents were born in the 1800's when Hawaii was, The Kingdom Of Hawaii – Ua Mau.

They brought their traditions and passed it down for hundreds, if not thousands of years. Marriage was practiced between 1 man and 1 woman then, if that did NOT happen; I as well as many of you would NOT be here today.

I believe in equality, because we are all brothers and sisters in our own eyes and that of Deity. Marriage was instituted and ordained by Deity, not man. Let's not mess with God's Law, by creating man's laws to change it in the name of equality. In closing, Have each of you seriously pondered and prayed about asking Deity/God himself, about changing his Law Of Marriage? I seriously promise each of you individually, that he will answer your prayer on this decision. I request your consideration to OPPOSE Homosexual and Lesbian Marriages in Hawaii. Thank you!

**Darroll Kahuena
55-606 Iosepa St.
Laie, Hawaii 96762
(808)293-1602**

Abbygail Solo

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

RE: SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

Hearing Date: Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

From: Abbygail, M. Solo

City, State: Ewa Beach, HI

Subject:

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SAME-SEX MARRIAGE BILL, SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

I will be testifying
Dear Chair Rhoads and Chair Luke:

As a concerned, citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that 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 freedom of speech, education or employment, this bill will 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 limit marriage between opposite sex couples and did not give legislators the right to define marriage as we are finding out only now! The only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Why should less than a hundred people decide what's good for almost a million people that live here in Hawaii? Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill. I look forward to further instructions on obtaining my ticket number.

Signature: Abbygail

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: DAVID L HUDGINS JR

City, State: KAPOLEI, 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:

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.


Signature

29 OCT 2013
Date

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 5:33 AM

To: House Special Session

Cc: eventsbyrenee@yahoo.com

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM (In Person)

SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

Testimony for on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Renee Cabrinha	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 in 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. As a wedding planner this bill affects me personally. As an individual, I should have the equal right under the laws of the First Amendment of the United States Constitution to exercise my right of conscience when considering requests from clients. I urge you to, at the very least, continue to deliberate on this very rushed and flawed bill as is evident by the many amendments being proposed, by deferring SB1 to the regular session, with a vote of NO! In conclusion, I oppose SB1 as written, because I MATTER TOO! I DESERVE EQUAL RIGHTS TOO! Thank you for the opportunity to testify.
Renee Cabrinha Hau'ula, Hawaii

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Name Petersen Manao, Pitugafela

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.

Mano Petersen
Name

94h obf Leoluca St 209

Waipahu, HI
Address

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: Vanessa Thomas 69 Lakeview Circle #5

City, State: Wahiawa, Hi. 96786

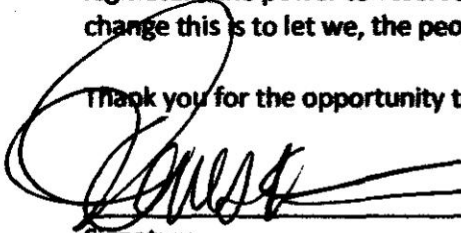
**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SB1, RELATING TO "EQUAL RIGHTS"
Also known as the same sex "marriage" bill**

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



Signature

10/29/13
Date

Name: Lemake Savea

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.

Lemake Savea

Name

Mesa Wapaku, HI 96297

Address

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: Kenya E. Bostic

City, State: Mililani HI 96789

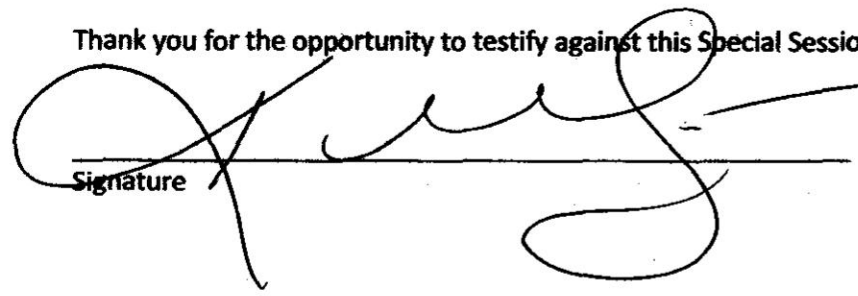
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 _____
Signature

29 OCT 2013
10:20 AM
_____ 
Date

Joshua Lafitaga

To: The House Judiciary Committee
The House Finance Committee

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.

Joshua Lafitaga
Name
28-1361 Hodulak St
Address
Pearl City, HI 96782

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: Julius Jackson

City, State: Wahiawa Hi

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

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Signature: 

Date: 29 Oct 13

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 6:35 AM
To: House Special Session
Cc: artist@jeffmerrill.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM (In Person)

SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

Testimony for on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Jeff Merrill	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: First of all, let me state my vehement opposition to this bill to redefine marriage. This issue is not one of sufficient "urgency" to be decided in a special session and should not be decided by the legislature but rather by the voice of the people. In 1998, the voice of the people clearly established their opinion regarding this issue. If any change is to be made to the state constitution should it not be instigated by the people and be voted upon by the people? The people of Hawaii did not bring this issue before the legislature because they still feel the same way they did in 1998. If not, let them decide. If Hawaii has a Democratic process this important issue should be decided by public vote and not by a small group of legislators. Secondly, this issue is not an issue of civil rights. Gay and lesbian persons have the right to marry but choose not to. Instead, they choose a relationship that cannot and never will be a marriage because same sex couples are biologically incapable of bearing children. Thus, their union no matter what you call it is not a marriage, regardless of legislation. I respect their right to live how they wish. However, I am strongly opposed to any legislation that seeks to redefine marriage. Hawaii already has laws in place for same-sex couples in the form of civil unions. These "civil unions" give same-sex couples every "civil right" that married couples enjoy. The issue of redefining marriage is not an issue of civil rights, it is an issue of semantics. No one is taking civil rights away from them. They are not being forced to endure any civil injustice other than those of their own making. Marriage by definition is the union of one man and one woman with the option of bearing and rearing children. This union is the basic foundation and strength of any society and no legislation can change the meaning of this word or the biological truths associated with it. Furthermore, what protections if any does this bill do to protect the legal/civil rights that children have to be raised in a home with a mother and a father? I submit that this bill does more to take away fundamental civil rights of children than it does to extend any civil right to same sex couples who wish to have a word attached to their adult relationship. By making a law to change the meaning of the word marriage you will be undermining the basic structure of society, namely the family. Lastly, this bill offers such weak religious protections to persons of faith that it directly undermines the religious freedoms protected by the free exercise clause of the First Amendment of the United States Constitution, which states, "Congress shall make no law respecting an

establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof". What right does a state have to limit this protection? I want my right to worship how I choose protected. Based on the preceding arguments I implore you to vote NO on this legislation.
Sincerely, Jeffrey B. Merrill

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
lola kau	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I do not support this special session and SB1. Look around you and see how many of the community have come to express our concerns. Why is it being rushed thru in such a short time? Time should be given to discuss, debate and learn more about this bill that will impact our entire society. Marriage between a man and a woman has been the pillar of all of the world's societies for thousands of years and you want to change this in a few short days. I also am a retired public school teacher and am very concerned about the negative and detrimental impact it will have on our keiki in all the public schools. The DOE is not prepared with definite guidelines, structure and material to be taught. Give us time to discuss and vote as a people on this important issue.

Name - Gloria Malaki

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

RE: SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

Hearing Date: Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

From: Gloria Malaki

City, State: Waipahu HI

Subject: I will be testifying.

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SAME-SEX MARRIAGE BILL, SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

Dear Chair Rhoads and Chair Luke:

As a concerned, citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that 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 freedom of speech, education or employment, this bill will 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 limit marriage between opposite sex couples and did not give legislators the right to define marriage as we are finding out only now! The only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Why should less than a hundred people decide what's good for almost a million people that live here in Hawaii? Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill. I look forward to further instructions on obtaining my ticket number.

Signature:

Gloria Malaki

Date: 10/29/13

Name Judy Tateyama

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

I will be testifying
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 thousands of years of indigenous and non-native culture, customs and traditions. Your "yes" vote in special session is clearly a NO vote to democracy!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Judy Tateyama *Judy Tateyama*
Name

98-1285A Hoohiki Pl.

PC, HI 96782

Address

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 6:44 AM
To: House Special Session
Cc: sdano96744@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM (In Person)

SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

Testimony for on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments: Dear Representatives, I STRONGLY oppose Bill SB1. I am asking that you PLEASE be the voice of the people and do NOT pass this bill. We have family on both sides of the issue, and we all love each other dearly, however, this has caused a deep divide amongst many of us. If you pass this bill, like this in a special session, you will cause further division in our state. This does not feel like a democracy! We believe in you, do not force us to lose faith in our local government. The people of Hawaii should be invited to participate in such a critical process and should not feel "shut out"! Allow us the opportunity to vote. Do NOT allow Bill SB1 to pass, not like this! If you vote yes, you are building walls and not bridges!!! Please stand up for democracy! Aloha, Sheri D. Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 6:48 AM

To: House Special Session

Cc: tinanozawa@yahoo.com

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM (In Person)

SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

Testimony for on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments: It is horrifying to see how this process actually works. On the 28th in front of the senate the voices of the majority were not heard and fell on deaf ears. The majority were opposed. I humbly beg of you to HEAR the voices of the PEOPLE of Hawaii and let the people of Hawaii vote on such an important and sensitive issue.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 7:10 AM
To: House Special Session
Cc: bdano96744@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM (In Person)

SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

Testimony for on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

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

Comments: Dear Representatives, I am writing to you as a NATIVE HAWAIIAN, asking you to vote NO on Bill SB1. I strongly oppose it! I can't believe that you are even considering redefining marriage like this! You are not showing that we live in a democracy! You are NOT our Kings and Queens, but are ELECTED officials! Hawaii was overthrown many years ago, and we are still healing! PLEASE prove to us that the idea of "democracy" that you have tried to sell to our people, all these years, really exists and that we do have a voice in this! Stand up for us and be our voice!!! Earn the respect that we would love to give you...Vote NO on SB1!!! Mahalo Nui, Brennan Dano Kaneohe, Hi 96744

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TESTIMONY

Presented before the

House Committees on Judiciary and Finance

October 31, 2013, 10:00 AM, State Capitol Auditorium

by

Karen Ginoza, Past President of the Hawaii State Teachers Association

In strong support of SB 1 Relating to Equal Rights

This testimony is in strong support of SB 1 Relating to Equal Rights. Many opponents of SB 1 are making statements about education that are not true. People fear that the passage of Equal Rights will force changes in the curriculum and in schools. After a close reading of SB, 1 I find that it only refers to marriage, not education. It does not include any mandates for schools. The Board of Education is the agency that mandates changes in the curriculum and in education.

The most important thing we as teachers need to remember is that all people, including children, need to be treated with love and respect.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

TESTIMONY

~~House~~ Presented before the
~~Senate~~ Committee on Judiciary and Labor Finance
October 28, 2013, 10:30 AM, State Capitol Auditorium
31 10:00 by

June Motokawa, Past President of the Hawaii State Teachers Association
In strong support of SB 1 Relating to Equal Rights

This testimony is in strong support of SB 1 Relating to Equal Rights and is submitted on behalf of past and retired HSTA (Hawaii State Teachers Association) presidents, Executive Director, and past HSTA state & chapter leaders.

We believe that it is clearly time for Hawaii to recognize and provide for marriage equality for same gender couples. Our state's history and legacy of inclusion, honor, respect, and ALOHA for all must continue. So, too, must our strong protection of human and civil rights. Past Hawaii Legislatures have consistently demonstrated leadership and courage in this arena such as when Hawaii was the first state to pass the Equal Rights Amendment to protect the rights of women; when Hawaii was one of the first states in the nation to pass the Collective Bargaining Law for the fair treatment of public employees, and when Hawaii established the Office of Hawaiian Affairs to promote and protect our indigenous language and culture. We must also not forget that Hawaii did not wait for the Supreme Court decision in 1967 to deem anti-miscegenation laws unconstitutional. Interracial marriages were accepted and common here because our leaders and our people believed in and protected what was right for all.

SB 1 reflects the growing consensus among our families, friends, and colleagues and especially among our young people that hurtful biases, intolerance and discrimination be rejected.

We, former educators, leaders and advocates for teacher rights, have met and worked with same gender parents in our schools. Based on our experience we know for sure that same gender parents are not a determinant of how well children fare in school cognitively and emotionally. Instead, here's what really matters: children respond positively when their parents come to school and show an active interest in their progress--worried when their children do something wrong or beaming with pride when teachers report on their children's accomplishments.

The Supreme Court's recent decision compels Hawaii to move forward to ensure that same sex couples can benefit from the same federal rights, benefits, protections and responsibilities as those currently enjoyed by other couples. This is a matter of fairness and justice. And we call upon all our legislators to live up to the legacy of past legislators by passing SB 1 and ensuring that all citizens regardless of creed, race, gender or sexual orientation are afforded equal rights under the law.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Past HSTA Presidents
Odetta Fujimori
Barbara Nagaue
Sharon Mahoe
June Motokawa
Karen Ginoza

Past HSTA State/Chapter Leaders
Barbara Coons
Jeannie Fujii
Donna Higashi
Yvonne Linda Tavares
Jan Turner

Past HSTA Exec. Director
Joan Lee Husted

Support for SB 1 Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013

We, former educators, leaders and advocates for teacher rights, have met and worked with same gender parents in our schools. Based on our experience we know for sure that same gender parents are not a determinant of how well children fare in school cognitively and emotionally. Instead, here's what really matters: children respond positively when their parents come to school and show an active interest in their progress--worried when their children did something wrong or beaming with pride when teachers report on their children's accomplishments. (Source: SB 1 Testimony from June Motokawa)

Opponents of same sex marriage have raised many concerns about education if SB 1 passes the legislature. What is the truth?

Misleading Claim

The approval of same sex marriage in Hawaii will change the educational system and school curriculum.

Fact

This bill is about marriage and not about school curriculum. It does not mandate any change in the curriculum. Furthermore, any school curriculum changes would need to be approved by the state board of education.

Misleading Claim

The Massachusetts education system changed when marriage equality became law in 2004. The same will happen in Hawaii.

Fact

We contacted educational experts in Massachusetts and they informed us that there were no changes.

- a. There is no Massachusetts state curriculum that requires any teaching on homosexuality or gay marriage. The only changes to the curriculum were Science and Technology (October 2006) and Vocational Technical Education Frameworks (September 2006).
- b. There is no teacher resource guide on homophobia in Massachusetts. Mass. has almost 400 school districts governed by their own local boards that make basic curricular decisions.
- c. There is no state directive to put pro-homosexual courses in the schools.

Misleading Claim

Parents do not have the right to know about sensitive curriculum taught in the classrooms, even if it conflicts with their family and faith values.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 6:20 AM

To: House Special Session

Cc: mary@enewhope.org

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM (In Person)

SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

Testimony for on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Mary Waialeale	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: As the bill currently stands, the bill is sending a message that Hawaii is not a friendly place for people of faith. Until the governor demonstrates that he understands and respects religious freedom principles of fairness and liberty towards all members of all faiths, the Legislature should reject this bill.

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Wednesday, October 30, 2013

Mr. Karl Rhoads, Chair
House Judiciary Committee

Ms. 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:

As a registered voter in the State of Hawaii I would like to thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to SB-1 at the upcoming Joint House Hearing scheduled for October 31, 2013. The following is an outline of what I will be testifying to:

1. As a registered voter in the State of Hawaii I would like to see the issue of same-sex marriage on a ballot for the people to vote and not decided in a special session.
2. I believe the special session doesn't give enough time to discuss the impact this bill will have "long term" on our state.
3. I believe this special session only reflects the governor and his will and not the people's will.
4. I believe this special session circumvents the democratic process.
5. I believe if SB-1 is passed during this special session it will set precedence in how the will of the people can be overturned.
6. I believe the passing of SB-1 will directly impact my first amendment rights.
7. I'm a believer of Jesus Christ and believe marriage is between a man and a woman.

I believe the passing of this bill will negatively impact our social fabric in the State of Hawaii in ways you may cannot comprehend at this time.

Sincerely,

Brian Aki
94-907 Awane'i St.
Waipahu, HI. 96797

Mahonri - Gama

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

RE: SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

Hearing Date: Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

From: Mahonri. Gama

Cith, State: Waipahu, HI 96797

Subject:

I will be testifying
TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SAME-SEX
MARRIAGE BILL, SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

Dear Chair Rhoads and Chair Luke:

As a concerned, citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that 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 freedom of speech, education or employment, this bill will 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 limit marriage between opposite sex couples and did not give legislators the right to define marriage as we are finding out only now! The only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Why should less then a hundred people decide what's good for almost a million people that live here in Hawaii? Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill. I look forward to further instructions on obtaining my ticket number.

Signature:

[Handwritten Signature]

Date:

10/29/13

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 5:40 AM

To: House Special Session

Cc: mpeary1947@aol.com

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM (In Person)

SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

Testimony for on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
margaret peary	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Dear JUD Committee Members, After testifying in person at the JDL Committee hearing on 10/28/2013, it became clear to me that certain members of the committee were not well-informed regarding the full scope and ramifications of SB1 on the citizens of Hawaii. The public did their homework; however, in my opinion the majority of the committee members, particularly Chairman Hee who, like Deputy Attorney David Louie, was not prepared, The public testified overwhelmingly in opposition to SB1. Along with concerns over religious exemptions, citizens appeared more concerned about the implications that our keiki enrolled in public schools could suffer from LGBT indoctrination if SB1 passes. The reason we are so concerned ladies and gentlemen is because of our awareness regarding what has occurred in other states where similar legislation has been passed. In some cases (i.e. Massachusetts), they've had nearly ten years (May, 2004) to experience the impact and far-reaching consequences of their SSM bill on the citizenry and particularly the keiki and the parents whose rights have been usurped. If you have children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews or take an interest in children in general, then I urge you to please go to www.massresistance.org to become more familiar with what could happen here in Hawaii if SB1 is permitted to become law. I believe experience is the best teacher and since Hawaii has always defined marriage as between "one man and one woman" ... may I suggest that the legislature has NO experience in such matters which is why you need to educate yourselves and become familiar with the state who has the most experience. I hope you will not discount the need to be educated as to the realm of possibilities that WILL (not maybe) infiltrate our public school curriculum. In closing, if you agree that the public has genuine concerns which arouse concern in you as well, then I implore you to vote NO in the JUD Committee and kill the bill during special session. Even though your colleagues in the Senate did NOT have the foresight to educate themselves and saw fit to vote to pass the bill onto the full Senate, despite the overwhelmingly negative oral testimony in opposition to SB1, I am confident that each of you will listen attentively and not question the validity of the concerns of the testifiers even though the impact of SB1 on public education was not addressed in the bill.

Respectfully, Margaret Peary

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Sasha Lafitaga

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

I will be testifying.

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 thousands of years of indigenous and non-native culture, customs and traditions. Your "yes" vote in special session is clearly a NO vote to democracy!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sasha Lafitaga

Name

98-1361, Hooluhai St.

Peru City HI 96782

Address

Justin

**To: Karl Rhoads, Chair House Judiciary Committee
Sylvia Luke, Chair House Finance Committee
Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB1 BILL RELATING TO MARRIAGE
EQUALITY
Dear Honorable Chairs Rhoads and Luke and Members of the House Judiciary and
Finance Committees:**

I ask that you vote “No” on Senate Bill 1 during this special session. Many would have us believe that supporting this Socio Economic experiment through a craftily worded administrative change in the law has benefits that outweigh the sociological impact of Same-Sex Marriage.

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

If you pass this bill, you are forcing your constituents to be a part of this Socio Economic experiment. As long as there was no marriage then the argument that same-sex marriage wasn't going to cause problems couldn't be refuted, said Barney Frank, who was the first openly gay congressman. It gave us a basis to use some evidence . . .

There are 14 other states and a few countries who have decided to try this irreversible experiment. It is irreversible because, like Civil Unions, once you grant someone legal privileges you cannot take those privileges away.

What has the experience of these other states and countries been?

Massachusetts was the first State to enact Same-Sex Marriage, what are the consequences both intended and unintended in that State? In Massachusetts all public school libraries are required to expand their bookshelves with books to normalize the LGBT partner behavior and life style.

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

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

What is the legacy you want to leave as a legislator?

Thank you,
Alan Yamashiro

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

http://www.bostonglobe.com/news/nation/2013/06/26/roots-supreme-court-decision-overturning-doma-are-massachusetts/G31gFFEZbXLvgI0IWnFojO_story.html

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

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

What are the facts concerning traditional marriage and civil unions?

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

Marriages: 32,513 97%

Civil Unions: 916 3%

Licensed Unions: 33,429 100%

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

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

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

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

Why is this irreversible?

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

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

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

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

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

How will this Bill be enforced?

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

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

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

Example 2

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

Two-part inquiry:

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

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

What is the experience in Massachusetts?

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

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

Background

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

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

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

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

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

Protection of Marriage Amendment

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The public schools in Massachusetts

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Public Health in Massachusetts

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

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

Hospitals in Massachusetts

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

Domestic Violence in Massachusetts

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

Business and Employment in Massachusetts

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

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

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

Legal profession and judicial system in Massachusetts

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

Adoption and birth certificates in Massachusetts

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

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

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

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

Government mandates in Massachusetts

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

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

Churches being harassed in Massachusetts

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

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

Politics in Massachusetts

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

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

Rule of Law in Massachusetts

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

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

Massachusetts Experience Cited

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

Canadian Experience

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Attack on Private and Home Schools

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Minnesota testimony

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

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

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

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

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

What is the definition of a Socio-economic experiment?

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

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

Name - Miracle Malaki

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

RE: SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

Hearing Date: Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

From: Miracle Malaki

City, State: Waipahu, HI

Subject: I will be testifying.

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SAME-SEX MARRIAGE BILL, SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

Dear Chair Rhoads and Chair Luke:

As a concerned, citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that 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 freedom of speech, education or employment, this bill will 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 limit marriage between opposite sex couples and did not give legislators the right to define marriage as we are finding out only now! The only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Why should less than a hundred people decide what's good for almost a million people that live here in Hawaii? Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill. I look forward to further instructions on obtaining my ticket number.

Signature: Miracle Malaki

Date: 10/29/13

NAME MARGARET TALAMANTES

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 thousands of years of indigenous and non-native culture, customs and traditions. Your "yes" vote in special session is clearly a NO vote to democracy!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Margaret Talamantes

Name

91-528 Pohakupuna Rd

Ewa Beach, HI 96706

Address

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Arlene Iwano	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Dear Honorable Chairs Rhoads and Luke and Members of the House Judiciary and Finance Committees: I'm here today to plead to you to oppose SB1 regarding same sex marriage. I LOVE being a mother. I'm so proud of man my son Chad has become. While Chad was in elementary school I suddenly found myself a single mom left to raise him the best that I could. There were many decisions I had to make to help mold his character and guide him through the complications of life in the sometimes nightmarish teen years. One thing I discovered early on, Chad not only needed my nurturing but also needed a male model to emulate issues that only boys face. We were so blessed to have my parents take us into their home. My father provided that strong male influence Chad needed to be raised right. All children need to be raised by both father and mother. Two mothers or two fathers cannot provide the complete parental influence needed and so desired by children. Please reconsider the special session and let the people vote on this matter that will influence our children and their future. Thank you so much for your attention. Arlene Iwano 1248 Ala Amoamo St. Honolulu, Hawaii 96819 (808)387-8721 I will be at the hearing on Thursday, October 31 to verbally share my testimony. Thank you.

I oppose this bill. Our faith led my husband and I to move here from California about a year and 9 months ago. We thought we left all of this change behind us. When the same sex marriage pass in California many rules change. The government, schools, workplace, bathrooms, business and church were affected. Is there any one here seen a gay parade? I did and even hours after it's over. This happen in San Francisco, Castro Valley district. Let me share to you what we witness. Many gay and lesbian parading with many of their private parts showing. Kissing with long tounge hanging, spanking barebutts, holding naked boobs and many other that I can't mention. Hours after the parade was over, my husband and I saw gay walking wearing nothing but his shoes. He was stroking his penis as if he is masturbating and infront of young people who are watching. It was a very disgusting sight and I felt like throwing up.

I know that they have all this right and says equality. What about us what happen to our space where is equality for me? Do we need to see such distasteful display. If this happen in California. It can happen here in Hawaii. Be ready, if SB1 pass expect to have gay parade and other parades that they celebrate. It start with us let us unite and be added in the countless opposing voices that are being, rushed and shutdown by this special session. Let the people decide and vote on this.

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. Suzanne Manzon

April Thai

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

I will be testifying.

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.

April Panay Thai
Name

98-1361 Hoohike St
PC HI 96782
Address

Naysa Kai

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

I will be testifying

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

NAYSAN KAI Naysa Kai
Name

91-1018 KAITIUMA CT.

ELA BEACH, HI 96766
Address

Deidara Higuchi

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

I will be testifying.

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.

Deidara Higuchi
Name

Deidara Higuchi

98-788 Airancei Ln. 96701
Address

Name Faamamu Fetuao

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

I will be testifying
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.

Faamamu Fetuao

Name

94-334 Punahele St. Apt #4

Address

Waipahu, HI 96797

Name GEORGE KEAMO

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

I will be testifying

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

George Keamo
Name

94-942 Kuakini St.

Waipahoehoe Hi. 96797
Address

Name: Maria Oka

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

I will be testifying
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.

Maria Oka
Name
98-915 Noelani St Apt A
Pearl City HI 96782
Address

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Ronette Byers	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Name:

Nephi Valinson

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

I will be testifying

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Nephi Valinson

Name

91-1109 Laanah St. #97

Ewa Beach, HI 96706

Address

Dylan Thai

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

I will be testifying.

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Dylan Thai

Name

98-1361 Hoelcher

Address

Pearl City, HI 96282

NAME SHERRY FRANCISCO

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.



Name

Address

Name

Jared Lee

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.

Jared Lee

Name

91-1001 Koaunui Dr #218

Address

Ewa Beach, HI 96706

Edward Bryce

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

I will be testifying.

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.

Edward D Bryce

Name

91-1039 Kai WANA ST

EWING BEACH HI 96706

Address

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Robert Nagamine	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: From: Robert Nagamine To: JUD/FIN Testimony Subject: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY Date of Hearing: October 31, 2013

My name is Robert Nagamine, a Kailua resident, and I am testifying in opposition to the Bill to legalize gay marriages. It is too overreaching and will cause unintended collateral damage. I am a retired, Lieutenant Colonel, Wing Chaplain with 33 years of military service with both the Hawaii Army and Air National Guard. Like so many others before me, we fought to protect the First Amendment. I urge you to ensure the strongest language and protection of the "free exercise of religion" to this bill. Please honor those who have fought and died to preserve the First Amendment! I understand that some say that this bill takes issue with the balance of the 1st amendment and 14th amendment of our Constitution. First of all, I believe that the framers of the Constitution wouldn't even consider this bill, using the purpose of the 14th amendment. And second, if there is a conflict between the 1st and the 14th amendment, I would say that the 1st Amendment would trump the 14th amendment. Religious freedom was one of the main reasons this nation was borne. No surprise that is it Number 1. Also, we must not take our assumptions or deductive reasoning too far. We have deduced that this is about equal rights, instead of benefits. The issue should be about benefits. The majority of traditional marriages have the potential to bring the next generation of children, so we give them the benefits. They bring a contribution of the next generation. Gay couples are different and don't naturally bring the next generation. Without future generations of children, we could potentially cease to exist! Besides that, we already have civil unions benefits. Besides that, our federal government is already 17 trillion dollars in debt. If the issue is about equal rights for all and not benefits/privileges, then why doesn't the government provide me with Air Force 1, the Secret Service and the White House? Should anyone argue for those privileges, besides the President? Why doesn't our government provide for every facet of life of equal rights or treatment for the blind, deaf, 7 foot person, 3 foot adult, handicap of A-Z? Can't afford it! This bill will bring unintended collateral damage in redefining marriage. There will be spiritual, biological, educational negative consequences for the entire community. Spiritually it is not God's design. Biologically, we are not physically designed that way. I think that legalizing gay marriages will highly encourage and promote gay marriages. Educationally, it will confuse our children and grandchildren of the natural designs of nature and creation. The collateral damage will be on our children and our future generations. Those who would normally be straight may be encouraged to become gay. As a singles minister of 8 years, I saw a number of people who were praying for the right straight person to eventually marry. Our children will lose potentially future good and straight husbands or wives because those people will be encouraged to go to that endorsed lifestyle. Vote NO on the bill! If you vote YES on this bill, then what is next? Polygamy? Our lives will be negatively changed in so many different known and unknown ways.

Name Grant Oka

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

I will be testifying
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.


Name

98-915 A Noelani St.
Pearl City, HI 96782
Address

Jackie Patterson

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.

Jackie Patterson
Name



91-929 Puuwaake St, Apt 53
Address

Name: Linda B. Fielding

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.

Linda B. Fielding
Name

94-999 Ka'olu Pl. #214

Waipahu, HI 96797
Address

NAME Ronald Ikari

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.

Ronald Ikari

Name

1989 Hoosawela St.

Pearl City, HI 96782

Address

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

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

I am writing to voice my opposition to Bill SB1.

I appeal to you as a woman, wife of a man, mother and grandmother to reconsider this rash action of passing a generation changing law. If you pass this law Hawaii will change. Change seems to be the goal of this administration but what kind of changes are we looking at? I have included in my testimony excerpts from articles about the kind of changes I see this legalization of unnatural acts will bring to our aina.

The first set of excerpts are about a murder of an innocent boy that was influenced by legitimizing sodomy. It is the story of Jeffrey Curley. Please read this if you are unaware of this case. One important point found in this information is that the homosexual marriage advocates fought for the right of NAMBLA to exist. NAMBLA who advocates for older men to have homosexual relationships with young boys of any age.

The second set of excerpts address what change will happen in our education system.

Students Given Graphic Instruction In Homosexual Sex By Brian Camenker and Scott Whiteman Massachusetts News - May, 2000 edition

This article explains what we can look forward to in Hawaii.

As an indigenous woman I only see this as another way to bring genocide against my people. If this "equality" is forced upon our young in the education system it will defile and bring confusion and destroy our genealogy. Hawaii has seen waves of invasions coming to her shores from outside. We must not let another in.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Deborah Ritsuko Bear Barbour
Kaneohe, Hawaii, 96744

Words of Jeffrey Curley's mother:

The last time I saw Jeffrey he was on his way over to my mother's house to wash our

dog.

We didn't know he had been hanging around in the local park with Sal Sicari and his "partner." They took him for a ride and let him steer the car. And they took him to nice restaurants to eat while we thought he was playing with

neighborhood children.

These perverts lured my little Jeffrey into their car that October day by promising him a new bicycle. They knew his bike had been stolen. But I had already told Jeffrey he'd have to wait until Christmas for a new bike. I wanted him to learn responsibility. But just think, if I had just bought Jeffrey a new bike, he might have been with us today. And I wonder if those perverts would've moved on to someone else.

When Jeffrey, in the back of Charles Jaynes' Cadillac, fought off Jaynes' sexual advances, Jaynes - nearly 500 pounds - sat on him and smothered his face with a gasoline-soaked rag.

I say smothered. But they said he fought for a good twenty minutes till the fumes finally burnt up his lungs.

Then they took Jeffrey's body to Jaynes' apartment and did to Jeffrey's corpse what he wouldn't let them do while he was alive.

Sal finally confessed the evening after they killed him, and after days of searching, police found his body in a river in Maine. Sal and Jaynes filled his mouth with lime and poured it all over his naked body, stuffed it into a 50 gallon Rubbermaid tub, filled the container with concrete, taped it closed, and then dumped it in the river.

Citing the First Amendment, the American Civil Liberties Union is

defending a group that supports pedophilia against a civil suit filed by the family of a molested and slain Massachusetts boy.

According to the Curley's suit, Jaynes was a member of NAMBLA under an alias at the time of the slaying. Jaynes, the plaintiffs say, had viewed the NAMBLA Web site shortly before the murder. NAMBLA literature showing members how to gain children's trust, gain access to children nationwide, and avoid police investigating pedophilia cases were also found in Jaynes' car and apartment, the lawsuit alleges.

The parents of 10-year-old Jeffrey Curley filed a wrongful death lawsuit seeking damages from the North American Man/Boy Love Association (NAMBLA) for the 1997 rape and murder of their son.

Prosecutors said Jaynes and Sicari lured Jeffrey Curley into Jaynes' Cadillac with the promise of \$50 and a bicycle on Oct. 1, 1997. They convinced two juries that the men suffocated, killed and then molested the child after he resisted sexual advances and then stuffed him a concrete-filled container. Jaynes and Sicari dumped the container in the Maine River.

Frisoli claims investigators uncovered Jaynes' diary where he admits having problems dealing with a desire to have sex with children. Jaynes later reveals that he felt NAMBLA's teachings validated his feelings.

Besides the diary, Frisoli says he has depositions from an ex-girlfriend and several close friends who testify that Jaynes was a heterosexual male who became obsessed with having sex with minors only after joining NAMBLA.

The following article was written by Scott Whiteman and Brian Camenker immediately

after the incident and was published in the May, 2000, issue of Massachusetts News.

Students Given Graphic Instruction In Homosexual Sex By Brian Camenker and Scott Whiteman Massachusetts News - May, 2000 edition

"Fisting [forcing one's entire hand into another person's rectum or vagina] often gets a bad rap....[It's] an experience of letting somebody into your body that you want to be that close and intimate with...[and] to put you into an exploratory mode."

The above quotation comes from Massachusetts Department of Education employees describing the pleasures of homosexual sex to a group of high school students at a state-sponsored workshop on March 25, 2000.

On March 25, a statewide conference, called "Teach-Out," was sponsored by the Massachusetts Department of Education, the Governor's Commission on Gay and Lesbian Youth, and the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN).

Among the goals were to build more Gay/Straight Alliances in Massachusetts and expand homosexual teaching into the lower grades. Scores of gay-friendly teachers and administrators attended. They received state "professional development credits."

"Fisting [forcing one's entire hand into another

person's rectum or vagina] often gets a bad rap....[It's] an experience of letting somebody into your body that you want to be that close and intimate with...[and] to put you into an exploratory mode."

The above quotation comes from *Massachusetts Department of Education* employees describing the pleasures of homosexual sex to a group of high school students at a state-sponsored workshop on during **GLSEN-Boston's "TeachOut" Conference on March 25, 2000 held at Tufts University**. Approximately 200 young teens and 300 adults attended the day-long event. Kids were bussed in from high schools across Massachusetts.

Children as young as 12 were instructed by adults (state employees!) how to perform a range of dangerous and perverted homosexual sex acts.

These included: homosexual oral sex techniques, inserting one's entire hand in someone else's rectum, sado-masochism techniques, girls using "dildos" and rubbing their sex organs together, and more.

But the Massachusetts Legislature wasn't fazed. They caved in to the powerful homosexual movement. They have continued to fund radical "Safe Schools" programs in the Dept. of Education. And in 2006 the Legislature even wrote GLSEN into the general laws as a mandated member of the tax-supported Massachusetts Commission for GLBT Youth. This is the low opinion that our legislators have of your children.

Soon afterwards, the three state employees (whose voices are heard on the tapes) were fired by the Department of Education.

The homosexual movement responded by persuading a Superior Court judge to ban the playing of the tapes, and then initiating a lawsuit against Camenker, Whiteman, and Parents' Rights Coalition, claiming that they had violated an obscure and

antiquated Massachusetts wiretapping law, and seeking monetary damages. The "Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders" (GLAD) -- the same state-funded group that won the Goodridge same-sex "marriage" case -- went right into action.

Name Rodney Howard

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

I will be testifying
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 thousands of years of indigenous and non-native culture, customs and traditions. Your "yes" vote in special session is clearly a NO vote to democracy!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Rodney Howard
Name

~~_____~~

Eva Beach
Address

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

RE: SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

Hearing Date: Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

From: Emma Valeriano

City, State: 91-1109 La'aulu St. Ema Beach 96706 HI

Subject:
I will be testifying
TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SAME-SEX
MARRIAGE BILL, SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

Dear Chair Rhoads and Chair Luke:

As a concerned, citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that 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 freedom of speech, education or employment, this bill will 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 limit marriage between opposite sex couples and did not give legislators the right to define marriage as we are finding out only now! The only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Why should less than a hundred people decide what's good for almost a million people that live here in Hawaii? Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill. I look forward to further instructions on obtaining my ticket number.

Signature: Emma Valeriano Date: 10/29/13

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Lloyd Jones	Individual	Oppose	Yes

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!

Moreover:

(1) A change from a conjugal marriage to a companion marriage deconstructs an institution that was formed long before history started being recorded.

This would dilute the meaning of conjugal marriage to the point of being meaningless. Since before laws codifying it, civilizations and all major religions have recognized opposite sex marriage as the building block of a society. It is best for the children as shown by sociological studies. Companion marriage does not recognize the unique quality of an heterosexual marriage but wreaks havoc in family court since a third person (or more) is required to create a family. When you have "blood" (i.e., genetic) parents you have two people and their respective families joined in caring for the well being of the child. Time and again we see child abuse where the non blood parent wants the spouse and is less interested in the child. We're not talking about all, but tendencies among sociological groups.

(2) Respecting homosexual couples is important but changing the meaning of legal marriage to include same-sex couples gives a "club" to enemies of organized religion. The First Amendment rights of Christians, Muslims, Buddhist etc., can and are being trampled on by "Human Rights Commissions" who care little for freedom of religion. We have already seen this in Canada, Vermont, and New Mexico.

(3) The people of Hawaii already voted on this issue. We had supposed that it was settled. For the issue to be resurrected without allowing the people of Hawaii to vote on it would be grossly unfair and amounts to political trickery. Do you see this as fair?

Thank you for you consideration.

Sincerely,

Name: Malaki Malaki JR,

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

RE: SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

Hearing Date: Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

From: Malaki Malaki JR.

City, State: Waipahu, HI 96797

Subject: I will be testifying.

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SAME-SEX MARRIAGE BILL, SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

Dear Chair Rhoads and Chair Luke:

As a concerned, citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that 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 freedom of speech, education or employment, this bill will 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 limit marriage between opposite sex couples and did not give legislators the right to define marriage as we are finding out only now! The only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Why should less then a hundred people decide what's good for almost a million people that live here in Hawaii? Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill. I look forward to further instructions on obtaining my ticket number.

Signature: 

Date: 10/29/13

NAME ASA K. BUMANGLUQ

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:

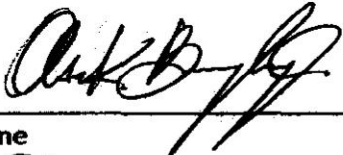
I am writing to voice my opposition to Bill SB1.

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 thousands of years of indigenous and non-native culture, customs and traditions. Your "yes" vote in special session is clearly a NO vote to democracy!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Name

ASA K. BUMANGLUQ

96797 Wai'pahu HI.

Address

October 29, 2013

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

Subject: Strong Opposition to SB1

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

My name is Candace Yee and I am a voting resident of Waipahu, Hawaii.

I am writing to voice my **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.

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.

Sincerely,

Candace N. Yee
Waipahu, Hawaii

Barbara Thai

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

I will be testifying.

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.

Barbara Thai

Name

981361 Hothulu St

PL 1A 96782

Address

Name: Mrs. Mildred K. ARAKAKI

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.

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mrs. Mildred K. Arakaki

Name

98-1795 Kupu Kupu St.

Aiea, HI 96701

Address

October 29, 2013

Aloha!

My name is Dallas Guthrie and I am a native Hawaiian.

I strongly oppose SB1 and urge you to vote NO. I believe that this matter should be left for the people of Hawaii to decide by vote. Please remember that as an elected official, you represent the people of Hawaii.

I watched the proceedings yesterday for most of the entire day and was extremely disappointed when I heard our Hawaiian Senator Clayton Hee say we had 1000+ votes in favor of SB1 and 2000+ votes against SB1 and still he voted yes. In my humble opinion, it is a disgrace that an elected official would vote against the wishes of the people he serves. Please allow democracy to take place and allow the people of Hawaii to vote on this critical issue. Please do not rush through this matter and betray the people of Hawaii by making a hasty decision without allowing the people and the leaders to thoroughly research the ramifications of such an important issue. To do so would be a grave injustice and disservice.

I implore you to vote NO to SB1. Let the people of Hawaii vote on this issue.

Mahalo,

Dallas Guthrie

47-269 D Hui Iwa Street, Kaneohe, HI 96744

Ua mau ke ea o ka 'aina I ka pono

The life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Curt P. Kekuna	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Aloha Legislators, I am against SB1 because 1) it doesn't fully protect my religious rights nor my church's rights to worship as we choose, 2) the people of Hawaii deserve to make this decision and 3) civil law should not supercede God's law.

TESTIMONY to House Committee on Judiciary and Committee on Finance

SB 1 RELATING TO EQUAL RIGHTS

Thursday, October 31, 2013

10:00 AM -- State Capitol Auditorium

Submitted in **OPPOSITION** by: Mary Smart, Mililani, HI 96789

Chairman Rhodes, Vice-Chair Har, Chair Luke, Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson and Members of their respective Committees

1. The title of this bill is wrong since it takes the marriage law which IS equal and SB 1 makes it unequal. This bill will allow different and unequal relationships to be classified as if they were the same. Same-sex relationships are naturally infertile. They are not "equal" in generating biological off-spring. References to husband, wife and other gender based nomenclatures are deleted to hide the fact there are differences. Marsha Gessen, an LGBT activist has exposed the truth when she said "Gay marriage is a lie. Fighting for gay marriage generally involves lying about what we're going to do with marriage when we get there. It's a no-brainer that the institution of marriage should not exist." Gessen has talked about redefining traditional marriage. Her own "family" situation involved more than two adults, comprised of three children with five parents. That relationship is NOT marriage and is not "equal" to Marriage.

2. This bill discriminates against heterosexual couples who enter into civil unions and would like to obtain federal benefits. Will individuals who prefer to enter a civil unions be forced into marriage? The easiest and least objectionable solution to the stated problem is for the federal government to grant federal benefits to people in civil unions.

3. This bill discriminates against individuals who are in a Reciprocal Beneficiary arrangement. They would probably like to receive federal benefits as well. The logical extension of this concept to include multiple adults, animals, plants, etc., shows the bankruptcy of the concept of expanding the definition of marriage - ultimately making the word meaningless. When something can mean anything, it means nothing. The Governor has already alluded to the fact that he expects new demands to arise in the future. Passing this bill opens Pandora's Box.

4. This bill creates a situation where our constitutionally protected freedom of religion in the public square is treated unequally. This is not speculation. It is fact based on real prosecution of individuals who live in States where same-sex marriage has been legalized. The assurances our legislators that first amendment religious and speech protections are in the bill are as believable as the assurances given that Civil Unions was all that was desired by same-sex couples. NOT true! Current law allows equal treatment of people whether they

choose to practice a religion or not. This bill enshrines the values of secular humanism which is essentially hostile to religion. This creates a situation where people are treated unequally based on their belief system. Many Churches have made this situation known to the legislature. **Voting in support of this bill creates an unjust and unfair environment for the people of Hawaii.**

5. In 1998 the Legislature and Judiciary acknowledged that it was the right of the people in the State to decide restrictions on marriage both who would enshrine it in law (the legislature) and what that configuration would be (one man and one woman). The legislature has not received permission for any other definition of marriage. Hawaii has a representative government. Our legally elected representatives have a responsibility to the people, not the Governor. Until the people change the Hawaii State Constitution, the legislature has no right to tamper with the definition of marriage, especially under the false pretence of "equality."

6. When the 1998 Hawaii State Constitutional Amendment passed, everyone understood that marriage was only to be defined as one man and one woman. Reciprocal Beneficiary and Civil Unions would not have been proposed if any other interpretation was plausible. It is a travesty that our government is now acting above the law in total disregard to our State Constitution. It is the duty of the legislature to protect the people from this out of control Governor who is ignoring the state constitution.

7. Marriage is made up of one man and one woman who take a vow to remain in an exclusive monogamous relationship for life. The purpose of marriage is to create a stable, nuclear family which is the most advantageous for raising children. Children who are raised in a family comprised of one man and one woman have a higher probability of success in life than less fortunate keiki. It is unconscionable to create counterfeit "marriage" arrangements that expose children to poorer and unequal outcomes.

8. Men and woman who enter marriage don't usually have special labels for themselves. Individuals who have same-sex attractions often classify themselves as gay or lesbian. It is only right that gay and lesbian committed relationships have unique terminology. Words are used for clarity. The word marriage means something unique. It makes no sense to distort the term marriage to confuse rather than clarify.

9. It is not up to the State to fix deficiencies in federal laws. The federal government could give benefits to people with civil unions. There is no need for Hawaii to change their law that adheres to the provisions of the state constitution.

10. This bill is a direct attack on a segment of Hawaii's churches and members. There is a thin veneer of protection but it is obvious that first amendment rights are the target of this bill. Innocent people could be in peril of legal prosecution

for nothing other than following their conscience and warning their neighbor of personal danger as a result of their life choices. We already have a bed and breakfast owner being sued for upholding God's law.

11. This bill make it obvious that people with same-sex attractions are being used as a battering ram to destroy churches and businesses of people who are faithful to Biblical teaching. Biblically grounded individuals care more about the health, welfare and salvation of people with same-sex attractions than those who use them for political expediency. It is well known that many same-sex practices entail inherent health risks. The hedonistic policies of Marxism/socialism, the antithesis of our freedom loving Judeo-Christian culture endorsed by Queen Kaahumanu, promotes same-sex marriage to break the moral fabric of societies. A publication of the international socialist movement has explicitly stated it is promoting abortion and gay "marriage" as part of a multi-pronged campaign to "replace global capitalism" with Marxism. The admission was in an article entitled "[How Can We Change the World?](#)" by Todd Chretien in the *Socialist Worker*, which is published by the [International Socialist Organization](#).

12. Those who study history know homosexuals were betrayed and murdered even after playing an important role in Germans attain leadership positions as Ernst Rohm had done for his friend Adolph Hitler. Will individuals who self-identify as being in same-sex relationships jeopardize themselves in the future? Will their "marriage certificates" serve as their scarlet letter, gold star or pink triangle? Many godless dictators have come to power in the past century and have shown no remorse at eliminating those they no longer need. Even today some nations severely punish and execute those who engage in homosexual practices.

13. Individuals in same-sex "marriage" include people such as Dan Savage, the Obama Administration bullying Czar who has stated that he sees no need for sexual fidelity in marriage. He calls his marriage as being "monogamish." That is a lifestyle that is outside the normal boundary of natural marriage. In a typical gay same-sex committed relationship, there are about eight "extra-marital" sexual encounters per year. That is completely different (unequal) from the expectations of marriage. Unfaithfulness/adultery, and "open" marriages are shameful, hurtful, and detrimental to society.

14. The duration of same-sex relationships is much shorter (unequal) than that for men who woman who marry. Expanding participation in marriage by groups that terminate relationships at a frequent pace creates an unstable foundation for society and families. We need to find ways to make marriage more permanent, not create categories of participants who envision marriage as a temporary or flexible arrangement. The more "flexible" we make marriage, the more likely we are to destroy it. The frequent changing of partners will burden administrative staffs trying to keep records up-to-date.

15. Accepting homosexuality as normal instead of disordered is not progressive but regressive. It has been done before with bad results. Our ancestors enacted sodomy and adultery laws to protect individuals and the community. As we dismantle these protections, we are seeing more turmoil, disease, poverty, aggression, and corruption in everyday life. The prevailing attitude is "it is all about me and what I want." As adults cater to their primal desires and focus less on self-sacrifice for their children and community, the civilization deteriorates. We are watching the implosion of our own culture in current times. SB1 is a self-indulgent adult-centered bill. If Hawaii is so unfortunate that the Bill is passed by our legislature, we will be on the wrong side of history by repeating the errors of the past.

16. The schools have departed from teaching facts and imparting knowledge and now focus on inculcating "right behaviors and attitudes." Unlike factual education, right attitudes and behaviors are a subjective measure -- not objective. It is no wonder Hawaii students do poorly when compared with students from other countries. States that have enacted Same-Sex Marriage have corrupted the education system by teaching children the erroneous belief that same-sex sexual relationships are the same as natural marriage. Studies have been done on lesbian/gay/heterosexual relationships and the effects on children raised in each environment and the results are DIFFERENT -- not the same and therefore not equal. Yet, after same-sex marriage laws are passed, schools teach incorrectly that the relationships are equal. Furthermore, parents have been denied the opportunity to opt their children out of such propagandized training. Schools become indoctrination centers for the new state religion "secular humanism" which denies God's love and plan for humanity.

17. The legislature gets paid to do the work of the people. The people have spoken on marriage by amending the Hawaii State Constitution. On Monday October 28, 2013 an estimate of 4-10 thousand residents of Hawaii came to the Capitol to protest this bill. We live in a Representative Republic where the people are the final authority on the direction of the State and country. **If and when the people decide** they want to amend the Hawaii Constitution again, that option should be available to them. **In the meantime, the legislature must abide by the decision to reserve marriage to unions comprised of one man and one woman.**

18. One of the testifiers during the Civil Union hearings stated words to the effect: "We are getting out of the closet, it is time for Christians to get in the closet." After I testified against Civil Unions, someone called my home and left a message to the effect "Your children will be molested in school tomorrow." I expect this is the type of "love" that will be prevalent if SB 1 passes - no tolerance for opposing ideas and no kindness for those who dare to speak up in defense of Biblical values.

19. Respectfully recommend the Committee **VOTE IN OPPOSITION** to SB 1.

Good Morning/Afternoon Chairs Rhoads and Luke, and Honorable Members of the State of Hawaii House Committees on Judiciary and Finance.

My name is Jonah-Kuhio Kalaniana'ole Ka'auwai and I stand in **STRONG OPPOSITION of SB1 and especially this SPECIAL SESSION.**

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

Back in 1989, I participated in the Office of Hawaiian Affairs Aha 'Opio O OHA Native Hawaiian Youth legislature. I had the honor to have been elected and serve as the program's second Native Hawaii Youth Governor from 1989-1990.

As an impressionable local boy born and raised on Kauai, my eyes were opened to the legislative process in its **purest form** and **intent**. We were taught to conduct ourselves pono, righteously, and that when the legislative process was **honored**, the voice of the people was heard and ultimately the people of Hawaii would be **honored**.

With Governor Abercrombie unilateral calling for a Special Session, the Senate Bill 1 proposed bill "Relating to Equal Rights," the legislative process and this bodies intent is far from being pono and the people of Hawaii are not being honored. Frankly the legislative process is being circumvented and made a mockery of.

These are the reasons why legislation should not be passed:

- 1) A (5-6) day special session does not give the legislature and the people of Hawaii enough time to vet this controversial legislation. Unlike the 2013 legislative session which comprised of over 100 work days with multiple Senate and House committee hearings as well as joint committee meetings, this bill will not go through that kind of thorough review. Today, we would be only 2 months away from the 2014 Session, could it not have been dealt with then?
- 2) With the June 2013 SCOTUS DOMA decision, of the 34 other States and Jurisdictions without same-sex marriage, why aren't any of them rushing into a special session?

- 3) Since the civil unions bill was passed and went into effect in Jan 2012, according to State of Hawaii Department of Health Vital Statistics Branch, only about 1,000 civil unions have been issued and that number civil unions issues has been drastically declining since the beginning of this year. So with a population of 1.4 Million people in Hawaii, this Special Session and SB1 are here to service about 2,000 people or 1/5 of 1% of the population of Hawaii? Again for 2000 people, couldn't this have waited to the 2014 Legislative Session?
- 4) I am one of the 69.2% that voted "Yes" on the 1998 Proposed Amendments to the Hawaii State Constitution Question #2. When I read the Constitutional Amendment Public Notice issued in the Honolulu Advertiser I clearly understood that "YES" vote meant for "opposite couples ONLY." Although the language was doctored, the people's **INTENT** was to reserve marriage between one-man and one women **ONLY**. Wouldn't it be prudent, if that intention of the people was in question to afford the people of Hawaii the opportunity decide again?
- 5) With the local media reporting as of this week that the local and national sentiment is moving toward the acceptance of same-sex marriage, it would be both in the interest of protecting the honor and integrity of this body to put this issue on the 2014 ballot as a Constitutional Amendment and let the people decide?

I believe you should kill Senate Bill 1 and offer the people of Hawaii an opportunity to vote in 2014 on a Constitutional Amendment defining Marriage between "one-man and one-woman, yes or no." This would honor both the proponents and opponents of same-sex marriage and preserve the integrity of your offices, the legislative process and honor Hawaii's people.

Again thank you this opportunity to testify.

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Paul	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I strongly oppose this bill and ask that you will hear the voice of the People of this great state and give them the chance to decide for themselves. Please let the people vote on this VERY IMPORTANT ISSUE. Mahalo.

To Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee
To Chair Sylvia Luke, Finance Committee
To Members of the House of Representative

Hearing: Thursday, October 31, 2013
Time: 10:30 a.m.
Place: Auditorium, State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street
Subject: Opposing of SB1, Relating to Equal Rights

Dear Chair Rhoads & Chair Luke:

My name is Klayton Ko, Senior pastor of First Assembly of God, a congregation that meets in six locations on Oahu, and also the Assistant District Superintendent of the Hawaii Assemblies of God. I am writing on behalf of our members and adherents who are opposed to SB1, relating to marriage equality for same-sex.

In the days leading up to this Special Session, we have heard a lot of debate about "RIGHTS" from both sides: marriage equality rights, civil rights, religious rights, federal benefits rights, free speech rights... all of which will be presented at some point during this special session. Of all the rights that have been discussed and debated, I want to speak out for the rights of the ones who's voices are not being heard or considered in this debate - our children, who have the most to lose should same-sex marriage become legal in Hawaii.

Children have rights too! And as lawmakers is it your solemn duty to not only to consider the rights of adult same-sex advocates, but also the rights of children, who have no voice in this debate on how their lives will be affected by redefining marriage to include same-sex couples. Research has proven that a family structure that includes a father and mother is not only foundational for a stable society; it is also fundamental to a child's psychological, and emotional development in life.

In an article, Who's Minding Our Children, Jeffrey Satinover, M. D., a psychiatrist and member of the Department of Politics at Princeton University, is quoted as saying: "there is no more important reason to prohibit same-sex marriage than the effects it would have on children ... in every area of life, cognitive, emotional, social, developmental ... at every phase of the life cycle ... social evidence shows that there are measurable effects when children lack either a mother or a father."

Proponents of same-sex marriage believe love is all children really need. Based on that supposition, they conclude that it's just as good for children to be raised by loving parents of the

same sex, as by loving parents of the opposite sex. This assumption is naively simplistic and denies the complex nature and core needs of human being. Children need more than love.

According to Trayce Hansen, a licensed psychologist, decades of research prove the ideal family structure for children is to be raised by both a mother and a father. “Children raised in such families are more likely to thrive—psychologically, mentally, and physically—than children reared in any other kind of family configuration. The differences between men and women ... bring unique characteristics to parenting that can't be replicated by the other sex. Mothers and fathers simply aren't interchangeable. Two women can both be good mothers, but neither can be a good father. If we agree that healthy children define a growing society, then traditional marriage is the way we ensure the next generation grows up with the irreplaceable benefit of their mother and father.

In closing, I was one of the 70 percent who voted “Yes” to preserve the definition of traditional marriage by amending the constitution in 1998 to give our legislators the power to reserve marriage between opposite sex couple (father and mother). This bill not only disregard the our amended constitution, it ignores the voice of the people who voted overwhelmingly in favor of marriage between a man and a woman. I appeal to you, to rise above special interest and party politics and uphold our State Constitution by voting “No” to SB 1, because the people have already decided.

Thank you and God bless,

Klayton Ko
Senior Pastor of First Assembly of God
3400 Moanalua Rd, Honolulu, HI 96819

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.

With regard to SB1 and our debate on redefining marriage, the 10th Amendment to the US Constitution grants individual states the power to define marriage. This legislature should not take this power lightly and respect and acknowledge that the people of Hawaii have the power to define marriage and already have.

The State of Hawaii has the power to decide individually how it would like to define marriage, and the people of Hawaii have decided to define marriage as only between a man and a woman. Thus, a union between one consenting male adult and one consenting female adult is marriage, which distinguishes two differing sexes, male and female, as prerequisites to entering the marriage contract. The people of Hawaii also have decided to define a union between two consenting adults as a Civil Union, and two consenting persons can enter into a Civil Union regardless of the sexes of the two persons. If the legislature would like to define the relationship of two consenting adults of the same sex, then the legislature should find a word to describe that union and define that word as such. The word "marriage" does not need to be redefined.

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

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

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Marcia Tagavilla
Honolulu, HI

To: Reps. Rhoads □ Luke and The Hawaii House Committees on Judiciary and Finance

Date and Time of Hearing: Thursday, October 31st at 10:00 a.m.

Re: Catherine Jacobsmeyer's TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Members of the Hawaii House Committees on Judiciary and Finance:

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

Marriage between a man and woman is and always has been the basic building block for human civilization and is the natural medium by which God intends for His children to come into the world and be nurtured to adulthood. Children are entitled to birth and rearing within the bonds of matrimony between a man and a woman. This union does far more than merely meet the needs of the involved adults. While the long term results of a child's being reared in a same sex marriage household have not been completely explored, I intuitively shudder to think of the possible negative effects and havoc it might wreak. I'm most concerned about the parental model consisting of a same-sex couple's being deeply implanted in the child's mind. This unnatural imprint and influence may have lasting and devastating consequences.

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

This issue is bigger than the question of whether society should be more tolerant. If passed, this act would infringe on religious freedom and redefine marriage, creating a new "civil right." I rue the day when a judicial court of the land decides to penalize our churches because we refuse full religious privileges to same sex couples living together. I know that our church will never acknowledge same-sex marriage as being morally correct. I regard the Hawaii Equality Marriage Act of 2013 as potentially the beginning of an eventual contravention of our basic First Amendment rights. If this legislation passes, we ask for stronger exemptions for religious clergy, religious institutions, religious facilities, and small businesses than are currently proposed. We urge that these exemptions be extended to all people and organizations of faith, so as to protect religious groups from being required to support, condone, or perform same-sex marriages or to host same-sex marriages in their facilities.

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

I urge you to please consider our views and oppose this bill. Mahalo.

Catherine P. Jacobsmeyer
Laie, Hawaii

SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

Testimony for on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Richard Waialeale	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I am against this bill. As a pastor, grandfather, Hawaiian, let the people decide.

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

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NAME

ZEONIA NANOOIKAIKA HOLOHOLEOPURANDI

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

RE: SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

Hearing Date: Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

From: ZEONIA NANOOIKAIKA HOLOHOLEOPURANDI

City, State: Waipahu Hawaii

Subject:

I will Testify
TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SAME-SEX MARRIAGE BILL, SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

Dear Chair Rhoads and Chair Luke:

As a concerned, citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that 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 freedom of speech, education or employment, this bill will 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 limit marriage between opposite sex couples and did not give legislators the right to define marriage as we are finding out only now! The only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Why should less then a hundred people decide what's good for almost a million people that live here in Hawaii? Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill. I look forward to further instructions on obtaining my ticket number.

Signature:

Zeonia Nanooikaika Holoholeopurandi

Date:

10/30/13

Teah A. Laupapa

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

I will be testifying
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 thousands of years of indigenous and non-native culture, customs and traditions. Your "yes" vote in special session is clearly a NO vote to democracy!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Teah A. Laupapa
Name

4140B Guadalupe Circle
Kapolei, HI 96707
Address

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 8:27 AM
To: House Special Session
Cc: thumbtied@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM (In Person)

SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

Testimony for on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Erin Haynes	Individual	Oppose	Yes

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

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Name: Jiris Ligoligo Fetuau

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

I will be testifying
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 thousands of years of indigenous and non-native culture, customs and traditions. Your "yes" vote in special session is clearly a NO vote to democracy!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Jiris Ligoligo Fetuau

Name

94-354 Puuole St. Apt #4

Address

Waipahu, HI 96797

Name: Caroline Tartin Ma Sun

10/29/13

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

will be testifying
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 thousands of years of indigenous and non-native culture, customs and traditions. Your "yes" vote in special session is clearly a NO vote to democracy!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Caroline T. Ma Sun 

Name

6423A 101st St.

Ewa Beach, HI 96706

Address

Alfred S. Ma Sun (husband)

Miriam Gama

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

RE: SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

Hearing Date: Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

From: Miriam Gama

City, State: Waipahu, HI 96797

Subject:

I will be testifying.
TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SAME-SEX
MARRIAGE BILL, SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

Dear Chair Rhoads and Chair Luke:

As a concerned, citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that 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 freedom of speech, education or employment, this bill will 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 limit marriage between opposite sex couples and did not give legislators the right to define marriage as we are finding out only now! The only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Why should less than a hundred people decide what's good for almost a million people that live here in Hawaii? Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill. I look forward to further instructions on obtaining my ticket number.

Signature: Miriam Gama Date: 10/29/13

Jensen Kudashi

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

I will be testifying.

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 thousands of years of indigenous and non-native culture, customs and traditions. Your "yes" vote in special session is clearly a NO vote to democracy!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Jensen Kudashi
Name

98736, Hobbes St

PC 67907R

Address

Courtney Carter

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

I will be testifying.

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 thousands of years of indigenous and non-native culture, customs and traditions. Your "yes" vote in special session is clearly a NO vote to democracy!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Courtney Carter *Courtney Carter*
Name

91-1091 Keoneula Blvd H-2

Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Address

SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

Testimony for on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Kyoko Pharis	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: The Lord warns us in the scriptures: Now it is not common that the voice of the people desireth anything contrary to that which is right; but it is common for the lesser part of the people to desire that which is not right; therefore this shall ye observe and make it your law—to do your business by the voice of the people. And if the time comes that the voice of the people doth choose iniquity, then is the time that the judgments of God will come upon you; yea, then is the time he will visit you with great destruction even as he has hitherto visited this land. For as their laws and their governments were established by the voice of the people, and they who chose evil were more numerous than they who chose good, therefore they were ripening for destruction, for the laws had become corrupted. 3 Yea, and this was not all; they were a stiffnecked people, insomuch that they could not be governed by the law nor justice, save it were to their destruction.End of scripture quote... I am writing to voice my opposition to Bill SB1. I am opposed to the way the governor and our elected officials have secretly decided on this bill before it getting to the floor of the senate and house. The principles of democracy and the democratic process are being undermined, disregarded and trampled on in this special session. I support equality for all including the rights of conscientious and religious freedoms. The wording of this bill is mean spirited and cynical. It contradicts and eliminates religious freedom. As our elected representatives, we request you to provide as much protection for religious and conscientious freedoms as you have done to protect the opposing view. This bill should be rejected and given due process where the wording of this bill can be properly examined and agreed upon during the regular session as all other bills. The people who have already voted on this issue and elected you to serve as their voices should have a say in public policy. This legislation SHOULD NOT BE DONE IN SECRECY BEHIND CLOSE DOORS WITH ONLY ONE SIDE BEING HEARD AND CATERED TO! Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Jon Pharis

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Name Maselino S. Fiaavae

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

RE: SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

Hearing Date: Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

From: Maselino S. Fiaavae

City, State: 94-334 Papuole St #3 Waiyapu Hi 96797

I will be testifying.
Subject:

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SAME-SEX MARRIAGE BILL, SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

Dear Chair Rhoads and Chair Luke:

As a concerned, citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that 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 freedom of speech, education or employment, this bill will 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 limit marriage between opposite sex couples and did not give legislators the right to define marriage as we are finding out only now! The only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Why should less than a hundred people decide what's good for almost a million people that live here in Hawaii? Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill. I look forward to further instructions on obtaining my ticket number.

Signature: Maselino S. Fiaavae Date: 10/29/13

Name: Taufai Malaki

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

RE: SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

Hearing Date: Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

From: Taufai Malaki

City, State: Waipahu, HI 96797

Subject: I will be testifying.

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SAME-SEX MARRIAGE BILL, SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

Dear Chair Rhoads and Chair Luke:

As a concerned, citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that 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 freedom of speech, education or employment, this bill will 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 limit marriage between opposite sex couples and did not give legislators the right to define marriage as we are finding out only now! The only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Why should less then a hundred people decide what's good for almost a million people that live here in Hawaii? Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill. I look forward to further instructions on obtaining my ticket number.

Signature: Malaki

Date: 10/29/13

Dear State of Hawaii Legislature,

My name is Mia Pasi and I strongly oppose the passing of the SB1 bill. Please listen to the voice of the people indicating their strong opposition to this bill.

The union of marriage instituted and ordained of God indicates that marriage be between a man and a woman. Societies become what we create within the four walls of our own homes and unfortunately, if you take a look at society now – it's become what it is today BECAUSE of failure to obey THIS law. Even though we've opposed it, we've had to accept the passing of civil unions, have had to educate our families – but how much more will we have to subject ourselves and our families to? How much more will we need to tolerate? With choosing to pass this law, whose rights are REALLY being infringed upon?

Ultimately, with the passing of this law, doors to our homes are forced to be open ultimately allowing strangers to dictate the way that the family is raised instead of how we WANT and CHOOSE to raise them. I acknowledge that I cannot force the way someone else chooses to live, but if I want to protect what goes on within the walls of my home, I have to strongly oppose this bill. Family is the ONLY way we can better society; please don't rob us of that right with the passing of this bill. I stand firm in my request – PLEASE DO NOT PASS BILL SB1!

Manti Gama

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

RE: SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

Hearing Date: Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

From: Manti Gama

City, State: Waipahu, HI 96797

Subject:

I will be testifying.

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SAME-SEX MARRIAGE BILL, SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

Dear Chair Rhoads and Chair Luke:

As a concerned, citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that 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 freedom of speech, education or employment, this bill will 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 limit marriage between opposite sex couples and did not give legislators the right to define marriage as we are finding out only now! The only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Why should less then a hundred people decide what's good for almost a million people that live here in Hawaii? Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill. I look forward to further instructions on obtaining my ticket number.

Signature: Manti

Date: 10/29/13

SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

Testimony for on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Christen Imi	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: Extremely 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 dire opposition to Bill SB1. I want to bring your attention to an area of concern to our family: the redefinition of marriage. There are 3 reasons why I implore you to vote AGAINST same-sex marriage. 1) The process of passing this bill has been rushed, and unorthodox. Is it wise to rush into a decision of this magnitude, without proper time to address both sides of the issue in an open, discussion-style forum? What happened to "Hawaiian Time"? Slow Down, Hawaii...this is not the mainland! What's the rush for a Special Session, circumventing democracy! 2) Redefining marriage leaves a vulnerability to change it again. When something as important as marriage is open to revision, there is no limit to where the deviations and redefinitions may stop...polygamy? Marriage with a minor? Marriage to an animal? It may seem far-fetched, but it isn't if we let the culture and media decide the standard for marriage. 3) In the name of being "politically correct", many are saying that changing marriage is the only way to respect people of differing sexual orientations. However, this is far from the truth! There are many ways to be kind and considerate to all people, but, in no way, does this constitute a redefinition of the institution of marriage. Please take my comments to heart as you contemplate this critical and significant issue for the State of Hawai'i. It is a decision that will forever alter the fabric of our culture, and community. May you hold to courage, strength and righteousness to uphold the sanctity of traditional marriage. Sincerely, Christen Imig Waipahu, HI

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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:

Aloha,

My name is Haunani N. Kin Choy-Igawa. I reside at 1269 Ala Kapuna St. Apt. 301, Honolulu, Hawaii. I am in opposition to SB 1 Relating to Equality (Same-Sex Marriage Bill). I believe that if this bill is passed into law, it will greatly affect this entire island and all the other islands in a negative way. If we can take a look at the other countries and states that have already done this, we can see the violation of rights that have and are happening.

As a mother of 3 young children, I am very concerned on how my children and even their children will be "forced", yes I said, "forced" to have to learn about something that is morally wrong in society because when it becomes law, it will show that we are discriminating against a group of people when I teach my children that homosexuality is WRONG. Homosexuality is NOT a Civil Rights issue. It is a lifestyle CHOICE. We are never born a homosexual. There is no evidence of a homosexual gene. Civil Rights pertain to human rights. If we are born Japanese, than that is what we are. We have NO CHOICE but to be Japanese. I was born as a native Hawaiian but I cannot become a Japanese. I can marry Japanese, which I did. I can give birth to Japanese kids, which I have, and I can learn to speak Japanese, which I have not, but I can NEVER CHOOSE to change my blood to be Japanese blood.

This law will be violating my First Ammendment right and not allow me to openly say that homosexuality is a SIN, which the Holy Bible says, without getting reprimanded for it. Although, you may have an exemption in this bill stating that our churches will not be affected when it will because you are violating our constitutional rights. There is not enough research and time put into this bill for you to be making a decision to pass this bill so why are you rushing it through? Please think about and ask the whole of the people that you are working for (not the minority group) of whether they want Same Sex marriage or Traditional marriage. Why was the institution of marriage made only between a man and a woman in the first place? It is simple, because it was and is for the protection of the whole of society.

I am very disappointed on how this bill is trying to pass into law especially in this manner. Please KILL THIS BILL AND ALLOW the people to VOTE, not just have a testimony. I thought this country was all about, "For the People". Now the question that I have to ask myself before I explain to my children the answer is, "What People?" Is it just the people that YOU want to represent? Or is it ALL of the people in Hawaii Nei that you SHOULD be representing? In 1998, you got the answer of how majority of Hawaii wants it to remain as traditional marriage. Please listen to the majority and not the minority. Is this not a democracy still? If this law passes, I am afraid to think on what else will be passed as law. Since you are going to be redefining the definition of marriage, what will happen next? Maybe Fathers will marry their daughters or brothers and sisters marry (incestery) or we can marry more than one person (polygymy)? Another way that this will do harm to the state is financially. We can see the evidences in other states already at the lawsuits that has been going on to small businesses whom I thought had the right to refuse services/business to anyone. This not only cost the business owners money but also the city and taxpayers money to have to put up with all of these lawsuits. Speaking of money, how much money is going into this "Special Session", if I may ask?

Lastly, I just want to say thank you to all who are opposing this bill and ask those who are for it to think about the repercussions of this decision and to just use simple common sense as to why do you think marriage is only between a man and a woman in the first place? Please do not pass something that has NO CLEAR definition of the (weak) law that is being stated, no votes(voices) from ALL VOTERS, and something that is so critical being RUSHED through. Please KILL THIS BILL and LET ALL THE PEOPLE VOTE!!!

I strongly oppose this bill, as it is lacking in protection for religion.

If I may I would like to share something, so that you can understand me, and how I believe and thereby give yourself a window into my faith. In Isaiah 55:8 it reads "For my thoughts are not your thoughts and my ways are not your ways, saith the Lord."

Every day because of my faith I have to put into subjection my many "Ways and thoughts" that are not in accordance with "Gods Ways", I will spend my life trying to overcome the sins that are in my own hands, and it's my belief that the family is the best setting to do this. Please understand that for me marriage is not just a contract, it is the most sacred sacrament between a man and a woman in my faith, that is my belief, you don't have to share that belief, and I am Okay with you disagreeing with me.

But the constitution has within it protection for my faith as it does for those in the LGBT. If there is really is separation of church and state then please stop taking back roads into changing or limiting my beliefs, because it offends others, I am not Anti-anything, I am pro-religious freedom, and if this bill from beginning to end doesn't in the strictest forms protect that then NO is the only honest answer.

Thank You

I am the mother of six sons. They need to know who they are and what their role in society is. We cannot confuse them on matters of gender, sex, or responsibility. There are enough confused people in the world!

The truth is man needs woman and woman needs man. Nature has already defined this for us! Do not be deceived, and let us not deceive or confuse the children of Hawaii who will be left with the burdens should this bill pass. Children need both a father and a mother. They *have* them because they *need* them. Nature knows best.

Persons attracted to the same gender *are part of our family tree and should be respected*. We are concerned for them! But marriage, like true sex, never was and never can be between two people of the same gender, *even if we re-write our laws to say so*. We cannot make the exception the rule.

SB1- is a "mongoose." It appears to solve one problem but in reality will not solve that problem and will create a bigger one. It will throw nature out of balance and eventually endanger our own species. Let us be wise like Kaua'i and throw the mongoose into the ocean! *Another solution can be found*. Please vote NO to SB1-!

Mahalo.

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Robie Lovinger	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Aloha. We are requesting a REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION under the ADAAA. We would like special consideration to provide our testimony as early as possible on Thursday, 10/31/13, since Louise Esselstyn is a person with a disability - she has Multiple Sclerosis with exacerbations. Mahalo for your support of this request. Robie Lovinger and Louise Esselstyn 808-722-0746

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

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Committees on Judiciary and Finance
Re: SB1

October 30, 2013

Dear Committee Members,

I am against Senate Bill 1 legalizing same sex marriage in Hawaii.

Supporters of this bill have asserted that homosexuals and transgender couples are presently second class citizens in Hawaii. They LOVE each other and therefore assert their right to be married.

Why are first cousins, brother and sisters who are in LOVE with each other denied marriage in Hawaii? What about people in LOVE with multiple women or men denied marriage too? Are they not second class citizens too?

All these groups have been denied marriage because these alliances are MEDICALLY UNHEALTHY.

Supporters of this bill also claim that it will not change our education system; it will just afford same sex couples equal benefits.

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. Indoctrination of children would begin in kindergarten to accept as normal, unhealthy, unsafe sexual practices.

PLEASE GOOGLE the MASSRESISTANCE.ORG website. Scroll down and open up the LITTLE BLACK BOOK. See also the ramifications for yourselves.

Most people in Hawaii are UNAWARE that the passage of this bill would FOREVER change the education of our children.

Let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous.

Please vote NO on legalizing same sex marriage. Kill this bill in this joint committee.

Sincerely,

Andrzej Tarasewicz

SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

Testimony for on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Mele DeMille	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: 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 Testifying in Person 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. Mele DeMille 95-219 Hoailona Pl. Mililani, HI 96789

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

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Jazmina Lafitaga

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

I will be testifying.

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 thousands of years of indigenous and non-native culture, customs and traditions. Your "yes" vote in special session is clearly a NO vote to democracy!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Jazmina Lafitaga Jazmina

Name

*98-1361 Hooker St
Pearl City, HI 96782*

Address

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

Re: TESTIMONY INOPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

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

My name is Glenn S Nakamura.
I am a person with disabilities, afflicted with muscular dystrophy.
I am testifying in opposition on the same-sex marriage legislation.

Many have said it's a question of equality and it shouldn't be delayed for their reasons to support same-sex marriage.
With all due respect, the ADA became law over 20 years ago, and our state is still not in full compliance.

Furthermore, because I'm disabled, my wife must stay at home as my full-time caregiver. I'm covered under Medicare, but she does not have insurance and unable to afford or to receive insurance coverage under my plan.

So the question I have is, where's the equality? What about people with disabilities and our rights & benefits?

God forbid, if you or one of your family members find themselves in similar situation.

Therefore, my plea to you is that we fix what needs to be fixed first, which are equality, rights, & benefits for people with disabilities, and 'let the people decide'.

Mahalo & God Bless!

Glenn S. Nakamura
Mililani, HI 96789