

January 31, 2008

Before
Honorable Tommy Waters, Chair
Honorable Blake Oshiro, Vice-Chair
House Committee on Judiciary

Public Hearing – 2:00PM Friday, February 22, 2008 - Conference Room 325

RE: Testimony in strong support of HD 2139 HD1 – Relating to Anatomical Gifts
Enacts the Revised Uniform Anatomical Gift Act

The Honorable Tommy Waters, Chair
Honorable Blake Oshiro, Vice-Chair
and members of the committee:

I applaud the introduction of HB 2139 – Relating to Anatomical Gifts and I am submitting testimony in full support of the passage of this measure.

On behalf of the Advisory Board Member of MOTTEP, we fully support the passage of HB 2139 HD1 that revises the earlier 1968 and 1987 Uniform Acts, which are the basis for organ donation throughout the United States. UAGA 2006 is an important update to reflect the current system of allocations of organ for transplantation and to help increase available organs and tissue for transplantation to saves the lives of patients in need of organ transplants.

My name is Tony L. Sagayadoro, Program Coordinator of the Minority Organ Tissue Transplant Education Program (MOTTEP), a minority outreach program of the Organ Donor Center of Hawaii. MOTTEP is also a founding member of the Hawaii Coalition on Organ Donation.

Minority Organ Tissue Transplant Education Program (MOTTEP) educational efforts are now making a difference. The increase in Filipino donors in the past so many years is a validation that public education works and more lives are saved due to this effort. More Filipino families now have been choosing to donate than those who declined. This is very significant that Filipinos is now one of the population groups having a “positive” consent rate compared to the early stage of the program.

We fully believe in HB 2139 HD1 will produce positive results like other states that had enacted the 2006 Uniform Anatomical Gift Act.

We urge that you give HB 2139 HD1 your favorable consideration. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Tony L. Sagayadoro
Program Coordinator

"Thousands of candles can be lighted from a single candle, and the life of the candle will not be shortened.

Happiness never decreases by being shared." Buddha, Indian philosopher & religious leader