

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
**CRIME VICTIM COMPENSATION
COMMISSION**

1136 Union Plaza, Suite 600
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Telephone: 808 587-1143
FAX 808 587-1146

LISA A. DUNN
Chair

REBECCA S. WARD
Commissioner

THOMAS WATTS
Commissioner

PAMELA FERGUSON-BREY
Executive Director

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2818 SD1
RELATING TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING

by

Pamela Ferguson-Brey, Executive Director
Crime Victim Compensation Commission

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair

Monday, February 25, 2008; 10:25 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

Good morning Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tsutsui and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means. Thank you for providing the Crime Victim Compensation Commission (the "Commission") with the opportunity to testify before you today. The Commission **supports** the passage of Senate Bill 2818 SD1. This bill extends the sunset date for the Hawaii Anti-Trafficking Task Force to 2010; adds additional members to the Task Force, including the Commission; and makes an appropriation to fund the activities of the Task Force.

The Commission was established in 1967 to mitigate the suffering and financial impact experienced by victims of violent crime by providing compensation to pay unreimbursed crime-related expenses. Many victims of violent crime could not afford to pay their medical bills, receive needed mental health or rehabilitative services, or bury a loved one if compensation were not available from the Commission.

In 2006 the legislature established the Hawaii Anti-Trafficking Task Force (HATTF II) to investigate ways to combat human trafficking, to prepare a social service needs

assessment of human trafficking victims, to collect data, to draft legislation to reduce human trafficking, and to look at the social service needs of human trafficking victims. The Commission attended a number of the Task Force meetings and provided its members with input regarding the eligibility of human trafficking victims for crime victim compensation.

While the Task Force made significant progress towards achieving its legislative mandate, the sunset date for the Task Force should be extended to allow the Task Force to complete the analysis of the needs assessment, and to draft legislation to improve the provision of services to human trafficking victims.

Thank you for providing the Commission with the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 2818 SD1.



THE SEX ABUSE TREATMENT CENTER

A Program of Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children

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Date: February 25, 2008

To: The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
The Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Adriana Ramelli, Executive Director
Sex Abuse Treatment Center
Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women and Children

RE: Support for SB2818 SD1
Hawaii Anti-trafficking Task Force

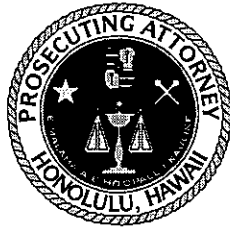
Good morning Senators Baker and Tsutsui and members of the Committee on Ways and Means. My name is Adriana Ramelli and I am the Executive Director of the Sex Abuse Treatment Center (SATC), a program of the Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children (KMCWC), an affiliate of Hawaii Pacific Health.

The SATC supports SB2818 SD1 to extend the sunset date for the Hawaii Anti-trafficking Task Force to 2010 and appropriates funding for it. This Task Force plays a vitally important role in addressing human trafficking, a serious and escalating crime that tramples on human rights in Hawaii and throughout the world. Every year trafficking impacts thousands of people, many of them children, who are forced to engage in sex acts or labor under slave-like conditions. Hawaii must be proactive in addressing this heinous crime. The SATC has actively participated in the Task Force since its inception and we strongly urge you to support its critically important work.

DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

ALII PLACE
1060 RICHARDS STREET, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
AREA CODE 808 • 527-6494

PETER B. CARLISLE
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



DOUGLAS S. CHIN
FIRST DEPUTY
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

**THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**

**TWENTY-FOURTH STATE LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2008**

**HEARING: Monday, February 25, 2008
10:30 A.M., Conference Room 211**

RE: SENATE BILL 2818, S.D. 1, RELATING TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Good morning Chair Baker and members of the Ways and Means Committee, the Department of Prosecuting Attorney provides the following testimony **in support of S.B. 2818, S.D. 1**, which proposes to extend the sunset date for the Hawaii Anti-Trafficking Task Force established by Act 260 of 2006, to amend the list of Task Force members, and provide an appropriation to underwrite the cost of activities carried out by the Task Force.

As a participant in the Act 260 Task Force we have diligently pursue the development of the necessary support services for victims' services to meet the diverse needs of the victims of human trafficking, as well as participated in the development of a comprehensive consensus proposal for a criminal statute address the crime of human trafficking in Hawaii. We believe that this Task Force has the promoted a positive and productive effort by the diverse interests concerned about this issue in resolving the personal and social devastation created by this insidious offense. Our Department stands ready to continue its full and meaningful participation in the Task Force and supports the inclusion of the additional members, as proposed in this bill. The proposed new members will be able to assist in the critical task of crafting legislation that will address the extensive service needs of the victims of human trafficking. The extension of the sunset date for the Task Force to June 30, 2010 will also facilitate the accomplishment of this task. Similarly the appropriation incorporated into the S.B. 2818, S.D. 1 will permit the full participation of Neighbor Island members by underwriting their travel expenses.

In summary, **we are strongly in favor of S.B. 2818, S.D. 1**, and recommend your favorable consideration.

Thank you for your time and consideration.